



THE
ENTOMOLOGIST'S
WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER

FOR

1859.

MARCH — SEPTEMBER.

VOL. VI.

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LONDON :

E. NEWMAN, PRINTER, DEVONSHIRE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.

TO
T. VERNON WOLLASTON, ESQ.,

AUTHOR OF

'INSECTA MADERENSIA,' &c., &c.,

WHOSE GENIAL SERVICES IN THE CAUSE OF

COLEOPTEROLOGY

ARE SO GENERALLY APPRECIATED,

THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED

AS AN OFFERING

OF FRIENDSHIP.



THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 131.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

A POSER.

Is *Agrotis lunigera* a northern variety of *Agrotis Trux*?

Nine-tenths of our readers never heard of *Agrotis Trux*, because it is a European species not occurring in Britain. Few of our Continental readers ever saw *Agrotis lunigera*, because it is a British species not occurring on the Continent; but how if one be only the form of the other? Who is to decide?

Fine series of *Agrotis Trux* may be seen in most collections in France and Germany; fine series of *Agrotis lunigera* may be seen in many a British collection. But where in the whole world is to be found a collection which contains an extensive series of both the so-called species?

Clearly there is something wrong here. A question, a simple question, is started, and the collective wisdom of all the Lepidopterists in Europe is at fault; the hounds have lost scent!

The Flora of the Mediterranean straggles through the Straits of Gibraltar, coasts along the west of Spain

and France, and enters the British Channel, turning up occasionally on points of our South-western Coast. Mediterranean insects may naturally be expected to follow in the track of the Mediterranean Flora. *Hadena peregrina*, a Mediterranean *Noctua*, was taken at large in the Isle of Wight. *Agrotis Trux* is a Mediterranean insect, and should be expected on our Southern Coast, where *Agrotis lunigera* occurs!

We are not expressing any opinion one way or other on the subject. M. Guenée has observed "that *Lunigera* was very close to *Trux*, though differing in appearance, and he would not undertake to say that it might not some day be recognised as a northern form of *Trux*;" but what we do want to impress upon our readers is that a simple question is asked, which, owing to the peculiar isolation of our British collectors, there is no possibility of answering satisfactorily.

If Madeiran insects are not allowed to leave the island, and if a similar restriction on the insects of the Canaries prevails at Santa Cruz, how can the insects of the two groups of islands be compared?

The readers of the 'Arabian Nights' will remember a case precisely in point; a genie and a fairy were disputing concerning the relative beauty of a Prince and Princess who lived hundreds of miles apart; the dispute grew warm, and at length was terminated in the only possible way: the Prince and Princess were laid side by side in the same bed, and then their relative charms could easily be compared. Entomologists will perhaps profit by the idea, and place *Trux* and *Lunigera* side by side in the same cabinet!

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RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

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At Worcester, of G. Morgan, Bookseller and News Agent, Little Angel St.

At York, of R. Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

N.B. Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

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Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

MR. STANTON will not be "at home" on Wednesday next, the 6th inst., but instead thereof he will proceed up Burnt-Ash Lane on that evening, starting from

the finger-post where the lane forks, at 6.30 P.M.

Entomologists from London wishing to join this ramble should leave by the North-Kent train at 5.30 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. B. B.—We fear few of our readers would be interested in the Lepidoptera of Dinan.

A. W. C.—Early but not miraculous; a few years ago several *Pygæa bucephala* appeared out of doors in February.

E. M.—1. We fancy your beetle is common; we will show it to a Coleopterist.—2. A Member of the Entomological Society pays an annual subscription of one guinea and an entrance fee of two guineas, and if in London can attend the Meetings, and is eligible to office in the Society. Subscribers (a class distinct from Members) pay no admission fee, but only the annual subscription of one guinea; they are not eligible to office, but can attend the Meetings when there is space in the Meeting-room. Members and Subscribers receive the beautiful and elaborate 'Transactions of the Entomological Society' gratis, when not in arrear with their subscriptions.—3. No examinations in Entomology have yet been instituted.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Early Capture of Polyommatus Argiolus at Christchurch, Hants.—On Saturday last, the 19th inst., I took a fine fresh specimen of *P. Argiolus*, apparently just out, in the meadow by the ruins of the old Castle. One of my boys brought it to me alive, having taken it at rest on

an ivy-leaf. It was a bright day, very warm in the sun; and during a drive on the same day I observed numbers of *Vanessa Polychloros* (hybernated specimens, I conclude), and one *Gonepteryx Rhamni*. Lepidoptera have been not infrequent here since the 20th of February.—REV. G. C. GREEN, *Parsonage, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset; March 22.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Forwardness of the Season.—This year promises to be an extraordinary one: the whitethorn hedges about here are all coming into leaf, and look quite gay: everything looks like spring, in a month generally the most unpropitious for vegetation. The insect tribe are also all about; to-day I observed a specimen of *Pieris Napi* flying under a hedge. The air was swarming with *Brachelytra*, as *Philonthi*, *Xantholini*, *Oxyteli*, &c. *Aphodii*, and occasionally a stray *Bembidium* would pass over.—R. TYRER, *Clewer House, Windsor; March 19.*

Early Season.—As a proof of the mildness of the season, I may mention that some eggs I have of *Pæcilocampa Populi* hatched last Saturday, the 19th inst., whereas last year they did not appear until the 20th of April. I saw *Cieindela campestris* the middle of last month, and *Biston hirtaria* I bred some days ago.—GERVASE F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple; March 21.*

Pupæ of Charocampa Elpenor.—While gardening to-day I found the pupa of *C. Elpenor* beneath some pinks, on the surface of the ground. I took some larvæ of this moth from a fuchsia in the same border in the summer. This hint may probably lead some of your readers who are in want of this moth to a successful search.—C. M. PERKINS, *Wotton-under-Edge; March 19.*

Petasia nubeculosa.—I have succeeded recently in breeding four specimens of this fine Prominent from eggs, which I received from Mr. Foxcroft, from Scotland, two years ago. The pupæ I had kept out of doors the whole time, and exposed almost entirely to every change of the weather; those I had in the house have not made their appearance, except one cripple, and *all* have passed *two winters* in the pupa state. The larvæ feed on birch very freely.—S. STEVENS, 24, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.

EXCHANGE.

Larvæ wanted.—I shall be happy to hear from any one who has the larvæ of *Euthemonia Russula* to spare.—R. H. FREMLIN, Watlingtonbury, near Maidstone, Kent; March 25.

LARVÆ OF NOCTUÆ.

AT this season of the year many a young entomologist visits the willows night after night, in pursuit of moths in the perfect state, and walks home sometimes rather disconsolate, with only one *Cruda* in his pocket. Yet the same individual might, while on this fruitless errand, if his energies had only been directed a little different, have pocketed larvæ of *Fimbria*, *Tincta* and perhaps *Ditrapezium*.

Caterpillars are fond of eating. Noctuæ larvæ are fond of eating by night; the leaf-buds of the willows are so nice and tender, and to a hungry larva are as much in request as early asparagus is with the genus *Homo*. The same search and the same lantern at the same bushes would, if larvæ had been looked for, have given a far more profitable result, than when only the perfect insects were the objects of research. True, the larvæ want

tending and feeding, but what mother thinks it a trouble to attend to her own children, and what entomologist deems it a bore to have to attend to the wants of his own hungry larvæ? Giving them their daily *pabulum* is one of the greatest pleasures in life!

Sometimes, we admit, there is patience and labour required in the process of larva-feeding, but this is a work-loving generation, and we know very few who are hopelessly and incurably idle.

And no tyro would venture to admit, even to his most intimate friend, that he abstained on principle from hunting for larvæ, because if he did so, and was successful in finding any, he should have to feed them.

Sloe-bushes, roses, birch shoots,—all deserve an attentive scrutiny during the next three or four weeks, and we trust some will take the hint.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus COLEOPHORA.

Most of our readers are aware that the fourth volume of the 'Natural History of the Tineina,' now in the printer's hands, will contain the private lives of twenty-four species of the genus *Coleophora*, but it may perhaps not be so generally known that the fifth volume, which we have already begun to write, will also treat of the same genus, and will furnish memoirs of twenty-four other species.

We are of course anxious to make the details in these volumes as full and as interesting as possible, and therefore suggest the following enquiries:—

Ochrea. Does this larva begin to feed in the autumn? We should fancy so, and that it must have attained a con-

siderable size before the approach of winter.

Hemerobiella. Can any one inform us what the case of a young larva of *Hemerobiella* is like? We never saw one that was not almost full-grown.

Fuscocuprella (the *Asychna fuscociliella* of the 'Insecta Britannica'). Of this species we have, through the kindness of Herr Hofmann, of Ratisbon, several times received larvæ; but we yet want to make the acquaintance of feeding larvæ, so as to learn their mines and modes of feeding.

Coronilla. Of this handsome species we should again be glad to receive a few feeding larvæ.

Saponariella. Of this species we should be glad to receive some larvæ that are still capable of blotching the leaves of the *Saponaria officinalis*.

Palliatella. We are still not fully acquainted with all the "ways and means" of this larva, and should be glad to receive a dozen or two, from any one who may meet with it in plenty. A single specimen of a larva would be of no use; to describe the manners of a nation you must know more than one individual.

The following larvæ will be highly acceptable to us.

Badiipennella. Soon to be expected on ash-leaves.

Frischella. The larva of which has been found in the Isle of Wight.

Deauratella and *Fabriciella*. These probably feed on the seeds of clover; but where do they hibernate?

Vulneraria. This no doubt feeds on some papilionaceous plant, whether it is attached to the *Anthyllis Vulneraria* or not; the larva should be sought at Deal, where the perfect insect occurs.

Saturatella. More than two years ago we received from Mr. Buxton some cases of this species, which he had found early in July, "on the common broom, along the road leading from Llangollen to the limestone rocks where *Ashworthii* is

found." Mr. Buxton remarked that it was tolerably abundant, for that he did not notice it till just as he was leaving, and then in a very few minutes he found five or six.

Niveicostella. The search for this larva must still be continued. At one time we were certainly suspicious that it would be found to feed on *Hippocrepis comosa*; now we are less sanguine on this point. Professor Frey has, however, observed the larva of *Serenella* on that plant.

Apicella. Up to the present time we have no clue to the food-plant of this pretty fen insect.

Among the Continental species we should be glad to receive larvæ of any of the following:—

Milvipennis,
Albicostella,
Gallipennella,
Canariella,
Albifuscella,
Marginatella,
Colutella,
Onobrychiella,
Oriolella,
Partitella,
Fuscociliella,
Vicinella,
Rectilineella,
Fringillella,
Tractella,
Vibicigerella,
Astragalella,
Cælebipennella,
Onopordiella,
Ballotella,
Dianthi,
Unipunctella, &c., &c.

—H. T. STAINTON.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION IN BRITAIN OF SOME OF THE COLEOPHORÆ.

In preparing the fifth volume of the 'Natural History of the Tineina,' I should be glad to hear from those who have met with any of the following

species of Coleophora, in addition to the localities I have already received notice of, for the purpose of the 'Mannual,' and which I append below to the name of each species:—

Paripennella. Searborough, common; Lewisham, Brixton.

Vibicella. Lewes; and Trench Wood, near Woreester.

Conspicuell. Headley Lane, near Mickleham.

Murinipennella. Kingsbury; Lewes, common; Pembury; Searborough, abundant; York; Worthing.

Argentula. Bristol, common; Kingsbury; Dawlish; Charlton.

Hemerobiella. Hammersmith; Putney; Farnham.

Ochrea. Alkham; Bristol, abundant; Riddlesdown, near Croydon; Oxford; Sandown, Isle of Wight; Upton; Moreton, in Cheshire.

Chalcogrammella. Searborough, abundant.

Vitisella. Near Manchester.

Wockeella. Pembury, and near Canterbury.—H. T. STAINTON; *March* 25.

EXAMINATIONS IN ENTOMOLOGY.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—May I be allowed to call attention to a question that was discussed some time ago, but seems now to have dropped altogether? I allude to the subject of Examinations. This was taken up with considerable eagerness by many, but seems to have ended where it began. No one appears willing to take the lead or to act at all in the matter. I own that there are great difficulties to be overcome, but why should not the Entomological Society take it up? They may, however, say there will be expenses attending it, and their finances are not

now, it appears, in a very flourishing state, but why should not every one examined pay a stated fee, as at the Examinations of the University of London? It need not be high, but just enough to defray all the expenses attending the Examination. Will no one undertake to bring it before the notice of that body (the Entomological Society)? I am sure that I am not far wrong when I say that all (of the rising generation) who have any emulation about them will be glad enough to come forward.

I am, sir,

Yours, &c.,

W. C. TURNER.

33, Bermondsey Square, S.E.

LITHOCOLLETIS SCHREBERELLA.

Yellow leaf, that elingest last

To the bare elm's topmost bough,
Like a sea boy to the mast,

While all is waste and drear below;

What hold'st thou in thy bosom brave,
Pale and weak, but holding still?
Or seek'st thou but thyself to save,
Now the wild winds have their will?

Ah! thou art gone,—now whirled on high,

Now east upon the woodland brook:
Now will I solve the mystery,
Come to thy aid with friendly crook.

Yes, within this eurious fold,

In soft cocoon all wrapp'd so nice,
What is it that my eyes behold?
A little wriggling chrysalis!

A useful life, a useful death

Was thine, poor leaf; and in decay,
'Mid the damp earth's steaming breath,
Usefulness still tracks thy way.

In life thou didst adorn and feed
 Thy mighty sire,—this insect nurse;
 By death from that sweet service freed
 Thou didst become a fairy hearse,

Wafting to some place of rest
 Death's image, Resurrection's hope,
 Warmly swathed in silken vest,
 Till birds again their bosoms ope.

For e'er so long decay shall spare
 The texture of that curious fold.
Then, Insect, leap into the air,
Then, useful leaf, return to mould.

Return,—and, whilst that tiny wing
 Sparkles among the leaves of May,
 Sap from thy very dust shall spring
 To clothe the wood some future day.

E. H.

November 10, 1858.

AN APRIL DAY.

When now the sun, with rays
 So long averted, has returned again,
 'Tis sweet to wander in the woods, or
 gaze
 In silence o'er the plain.

I love the season well,
 The fragrant earth is peopled with light
 forms,
 All clad in fairy hues, which come to tell
 An end of winter's storms.

O'er all the scene a birth
 Of buds and blossoms, tight in Nature's
 arms
 Is clasp'd, while to the listening mother
 earth
 The winds sing of their charms.

The lark on high betimes
 The Maker's praise thrills out in rap-
 turous rounds,
 The leader of the birds whose concert
 chimes
 In most harmonious sounds.

And when the twilight shades
 Steal o'er the world, and the long
 quiv'ring beams
 Of golden light gush softly through the
 glade
 In soft effulgent streams,

The little elfin world
 Of insect-race dance forth and revel
 in the flood
 Of light, to music of their own, while
 furled
 O'er field, and plain, and wood,

Yet hangs Night's curtain; then
 As stealthy night creeps on, and as she
 goes
 Lets fall the folds, her silence says to
 men,
 That thus their lives shall close,

However bright hath been
 Their April day, the evening leads,
 like this,
 To darkness, which is but the veil between
 Now and to-morrow's bliss.

A JAPANESE MOTH FABLE.—“This moth (a beautiful species of Japanese night-moth) is about four inches long, slender, round-bodied, with four wings, two of which are transparent, and concealed under the other pair of wings, which shine like polished metal, and are most curiously and beautifully adorned with blue and gold lines and spots. The following graceful fable owes its origin to the matchless beauty of this moth:—All other night-flies fall in love with it; and, to get rid of their importunities, it maliciously bids them, as a trial of their devotion and constancy, to go and fetch it fire. The blind lovers, obedient to command, fly to the nearest lamp or candle, and never fail to get burned to death.”—‘*Japan and her People*,’ by Andrew Steinmetz.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S COMPANION. By H. T. STANTON.

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SYNONYMIC LIST of BRITISH LEPIDOPTERA, TO THE END OF THE NOCTUÆ, for interchange amongst Collectors. Price 1s. 3d. per dozen, or 4s. 6d. for 50 (post free). I have a number of these now on hand, which I shall be glad to forward on application.—H. T. STANTON.

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No. 132.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

ERRORS.

ERRORS are a great nuisance; but it is not possible to avoid them entirely. At least, if we only speak that which we know *for positive certain*, our words must be few and far between.

We open at random a volume of the 'Insecta Britannica' (that on Lepidoptera), and we there find it stated, at p. 212, that "cases of *Coleophora ochrea* have been found on seeds of *Potentilla argentea*." Now if any one were to conclude from this sentence that the larvæ of *Ochrea* feed on the *Potentilla*, he would make a grievous mistake, as we all very well know *now-a-days* that these larvæ are patrons of the leaves of *Helianthemum vulgare*. How the error arose we do not know; whether dried plants of *Helianthemum* were mistaken for the *Potentilla*, or whether the full-fed larvæ had crawled off the one plant on to the other, are points which will probably never be elucidated. Errors of this kind are unfortunately only too easily committed.

Referring to the same volume, we may here call attention to the circum-

stance that probably neither *Nemophora Carteri* nor *Argyresthia decimella* are truly British insects. The precise locality of the former is unknown, but the latter has a well-authenticated certificate of capture, and our theory with regard to it is that it had probably been bred from some imported plant which had been placed in a greenhouse at Camberwell, in the spring of 1850. In the volume of the 'Manual of British Butterflies and Moths' now going through the press both these species will disappear from the British lists.

Mr. Doubleday has called our attention to similar accidental introductions of non-British species in the list of Noctuæ, as we are now informed that *Opigena fennica* and *Hydrilla palustris* never were taken *here*, but that specimens captured in Lapland by Mr. Walker were sold in London, and afterwards mysteriously effected an *entrée* into provincial collections.

The occurrence of an insect here is in the first place looked upon as evidence that it is British; but when, after many years, it does not again occur, a suspicion is apt to arise that the specimen had been accidentally

imported, and those who do not possess British examples in their cabinets will be sure to doubt its claim to be admitted in our lists.

No person acquainted with the relative claims of different species to a place in our lists can doubt that the possession or non-possession of any insect in question has great influence on the mind of the compiler of a list, as to its retaining a place there or not, and this influence operates so insensibly, so imperceptibly, that the author has no conception himself that his judgment is biassed, though the fact is patent to every one else. After the battle of Salamis each of the Greek admirals assigned the first place to himself, but all concurred in assigning the second place to Themistocles. Self-love is *so* deceptive!

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CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having removed from King Street, Perth, my address is now—DAVID P. MORISON, *Pelton Colliery, Chester-le-street, Durham.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Having changed my residence, I shall feel obliged by all correspondence being sent to me at the *Bank of England, Manchester.*—J. LINTON.

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.—I beg to inform my entomological friends and correspondents that my pursuits in Entomology must cease for the present, as I leave London for Paris on the 7th of April. Communications of importance will reach me, if addressed as usual,—E. G. BALDWIN, *Albany House, Barnsbury Park; March 30.*

ERRATA. — In last week's 'Intelligencer,' p. 7, line 8, *for birds read buds*; same page, line 9, *for e'er read e'en.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. E. H. — Your cocoons are the nests of spiders. *Villica* makes a cocoon above ground.

R. S.—Larvæ not Lepidopterous.

J. F. B.—Thanks for your correction.

A. H. M.—About full fed; give them some decayed wood. One hundred of them may be worth a shilling.

H. J. H.—Pupæ of *Lithocolletis Mesaniella* in leaves of evergreen oak.

Doings at the Sallows.—Very early in February a straggling bush would break into flower in a few sheltered spots, but the first moth taken by me was a *Gothica*, and, strangely enough, the *Glæas* have not appeared at all, though numerous as ever last autumn. We have not proved successful with *Depressariæ*, the common species only favouring us; but the *Macros* have been more condescending. A few nights since, with a huge neck-suspended tray, lantern, boxes and hooked stick, we visited in succession the various places in which the actors in our entomological drama were wont to perform; but nothing but *Gothica* and *Stabilis* condescended to figure in tragedy, though a *Petrificata* or *Rubricosa* occasionally acted the farce of performing a few gymnastic evolutions on the verge of the tray, and then speedily decamping to the "green room," without waiting for applause from the boxes, so the tray gave place to a white-lined umbrella; and the first time this was used,—plump, like harlequin in the pantomime, a splendid specimen of *Populeti* appears before us; three cheers for the *debutant*, and this (though Christmas was not yesterday) was boxing night, so we boxed him. The next house presented us with a *pas de quatre*, executed by three *Rubricosa* and a *Gracilis*, which, however, was soon converted into a general "scrimmage" by our rough clapping from and into the boxes. *Munda* next came forward in a *pas seul*, and was almost hissed off, for at that moment the prima donna, *Leucographa*, long unknown to fame, or but just paying a visit to the west, graced the foot-lights with her unhoped for presence: with the gentlest care she was conveyed from the night air in a pink chariot to her future residence, "The Cabinet." Other actors figured on

the stage, but were scarcely treated with the respect they would have met with had our standard not been too highly raised. However, on our return we numbered seventy-four boxes, containing *Cruda*, *Piniperda*, *Populeti*, *Rubricosa*, *Munda*, *Gracilis*, *Lithorhiza*, *Badiata* and *Leucographa*, with many others of the *corps de ballet* not worth recording. Larvæ, too, came grovelling among the rest, and Coleoptera, among which *Oncomera* would persist in flying away, without waiting for his turn. *Leucographa* affected one bush (we have taken four as yet), of which I have a painful reminiscence in my finger, but I have also the lady herself before me, which is better than "parmaceti for an outward bruise;" however, as it is striking one, I will chloroform her and go to bed, wishing my reader the like good fortune.—W. D. CROUCH, *Uphill House, Weston-super-Mare*; March 27.

Captures in Perthshire.—I sugared on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and took *C. exoleta*, *C. flavicornis*, and several of the common *Taniocampæ*. Thursday was a blank day with me, but on Friday I took two *C. flavicornis* and one *Petasia nubeculosa* (a fine male). To-day I have taken another *Nubeculosa* (a female), and hope to get some eggs from her. I found both specimens resting on the trunks of large birch trees, about two feet from the ground. My address for the next four or five weeks will be—GEORGE KING, *Camagoran, Rannoch by Pitlochrie, Perthshire*; March 28.

Vanessa Antiopa.—Yesterday, while standing at my own door along with a few more persons, talking over the present Reform Bill, my attention was drawn to a butterfly that came out of the field and alighted in the road just below; I thought it was *V. Atalanta*, but on going to it, to my great surprise, I found it was a very good specimen of *Vanessa Antiopa*, which I approached very cautiously, with cap in hand, and I made it

a captive within forty yards of my own door.—JAMES NORTH, *Newsome, near Huddersfield*; March 28.

Hackney Marshes.—Hammersmith Marshes are all very good for those that live in that direction, but Hackney Marshes are not to be despised, though the growth is so different; for up to the present time I have seen very few reeds at Hackney, though *Poa aquatica* and *Carex riparia* and *paludosa* are abundant. On the 25th of March, in company with Mr. Robinson, I visited Hackney in search of larvæ of *Elachista Poæ* and *Gelechia arundinetella*. Both were in abundance,—the latter we had never before found so plentiful; in less than an hour we had collected upwards of a hundred of these elongate, uncoloured larvæ; how many of these will be reared is problematical. Last year I only bred two, or, to speak more correctly, one and a half, for one specimen was too injured to count as an "entire animal;" I was, however, comforted, when at Hackney the other day, by learning from Mr. Boyd, who stumbled on us accidentally whilst we were poaching on his preserves, that he had not bred a single specimen last season. There is always something consolatory in hearing of the misfortunes of our friends. The larvæ of *Elachista Poæ* were so plentiful that we were soon tired of picking them, and many, as usual, were ichneumonised. Perhaps we looked for another larva, but as we did not find it, it is unnecessary to say anything more about it.—H. T. STANTON; April 4.

COLEOPTERA.

Hammersmith Marshes.—To prove the prolific nature of this locality (despite the repeated razzias of metropolitan collectors) I subjoin a list of names and numbers taken by me about a fortnight ago, premising that all captures were made in less than three feet square of dry reed roots, and that I was occupied exactly two hours thereon. Though the

charge of "toujours perdrix" can be brought against the above heading, yet it may be excused, as in a very short time the jaws of all-devouring London will engulph marsh and reeds and beetles — *then* where will Coleopterists go for *Thoreyi*, *Unipustulatus* and *Scirpi*?

Carabus granulatus,
 Chlænius nigricoruis,
 Elaphrus riparius,
 Anchomenus marginatus,
 „ mæstus,
 „ pallipes,
 „ dorsalis,
 „ fuliginosus (5),
 „ piceus (12),
 „ Thoreyi (3),
 Pterostichus nigrata (14),
 „ anthracinus (21),
 „ gracilis (17),
 „ vernalis (6),
 „ madidus,
 „ minor (3),
 „ melauarius,
 „ cupreus (2),
 „ niger,
 Stenolophus vespertinus (20), most
 abundant,
 „ consputus (2),
 „ luridus (11),
 Amara apicaria,
 Bembidium fumigatum (5),
 „ flammulatum (2),
 „ assimile (11),
 „ 9-maculatum (2),
 Heterocerus lævigatus,
 Cyclonotum orbiculare,
 Hydrobius fuscipes (3),
 Homalota incana (21),
 „ analis (2),
 „ graminicola (2),
 Calodera (*nov. spec.*, Waterh., 2),
 Mycetoporus splendidus (2),
 Philonthus nigrifolius (2),
 Quedius fulgidus,
 Oxytelus rugosus (7),
 Lathrobium elongatum (9),
 „ brunnipes? (5),

Lathrobium quadratum,
 „ punctatum?
 Xantholinus linearis,
 Tachyporus brunneus? (3),
 „ chrysomelinus (2),
 Stenus ciciindeloides (24),
 „ binotatus (2),
 „ plancus,
 „ melanopus,
 Errirhinus scirpi (30),
 „ acidulus (11),
 Phytonomus pollux,
 Leiosomus ovatulus (2),
 Tanysphyrus lemnae (4),
 Haltica flexuosa,
 Phædon marginella,
 Helodes phellaudrii,
 Phædon tumidula?
 Galeruca californiensis,
 „ Lythri? (3),
 Coccinella 19-punctata (19),
 Coccidula rufa (10),
 „ scutellata (3),
 Rhyzobius litura.

In all (with some other undetermined species) about 350 specimens and seventy species, and some of the above — *e. g.* *nigrata*, *vespertinus*, *incana*, *cicindeloides*, *19-punctata* and *rufa* — were so very abundant that almost any quantity could be taken. — E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*; March 28.

OBSERVATIONS.

Noctua C-nigrum. — When groping amongst a lot of loose stones this afternoon I disturbed, amongst other things, a *Noctua*, which was excessively lively, and got a good deal damaged, as I had nothing to put him in; it proved to be *C-nigrum*. I don't know whether this insect hibernates, but it seemed nothing daunted at the cold weather; perhaps they are used to it in these parts. — V. R.

PERKINS, *Bank of England, Newcastle-on-Tyne*; March 31.

Eriogaster Lanestris.—This species is now just beginning to appear from last year's larvæ, one or two at a time; this seems curious, for larvæ of *P. Populi* are hatching two or three weeks earlier than last spring.—TALPA.

Habits of Nepticula argyropeszella.—Last October and November I met with some yellow larvæ, mining close to the foot-stalk in leaves of *Populus tremula*; from these I have now bred specimens of a bluish black *Nepticula*, with very large silvery cilia, a minute white spot on the outer margin of the anterior wings, and a larger spot on the inner margin, nearer to the tip of the wing; this Mr. Stainton considers *N. argyropeszella*, though much blacker than captured specimens. The egg appears to be deposited, not on the leaf, but on one side of the long stem, about a quarter of an inch from its junction with the leaf; the young larva, penetrating the stem, burrows to the leaf, which it enters at the midrib, and mines the upper cuticle, rarely passing through a rib, but completely devouring, as it goes, all the substance between the middle and one side rib, thus forming a wedge-shaped mine, with the excrement irregularly scattered; the larva, when full fed, emerges on the upper side of the leaf, and forms on the ground a flat, pale brown and rather woolly cocoon, from which the pupa is protruded on the escape of the perfect insect. From the mode of mining, it is obvious that, unlike most *Nepticule*, only a single larva can be nourished by each leaf, and they may be collected better in the fallen leaves than in those yet on the trees.—P. H. VAUGHAN, *Redland, Bristol*.

An Elachista Larva.—Herr Schmid has sent me an *Elachista* larva from Frankfort, which he imagines may produce the *Incertella* of Frey, as he found it in a locality where that species swarmed last May. The larva mines a narrow-

leaved species of *Poa*, which grows in damp places, in the shade of a wood; the mine of the larva reminds me strongly of *Nigrella*, but the head of the larva is black. It is scarcely to be hoped that this will produce another new species allied to *Nigrella*. Frey says of his *Incertella* (Linn. Ent. xiii. p. 233), "I have often entertained a suspicion that this species may be the *Nigrella* of Stainton, of which the yellowish grey, brown-headed larva feeds likewise on *Poa*. But Stainton attributes to his species a rounded apex of the wing and a nearly straight fascia, so that the correctness of my conjecture remains rather doubtful." It will be interesting to compare a series bred from these larvæ with the specimens I have considered typical of *Nigrella*.—H. T. STANTON; April 4.

Swammerdamia Apicella.—I have this morning bred a specimen of this insect from the larvæ I had had figured and described as those of *S. Pruni*. The red-spotted larva is therefore clearly that of *S. Apicella*, and it becomes very problematical whether such an insect as *S. Pruni* exists at all!! The description given in the 'Manual' (at p. 306) of the larva of *S. Pruni* should consequently be transferred to the larva of *S. apicella*.—IBID; April 5.

Slugs and Worms.—I have just made a memorandum to bake all the earth and moss intended for breeding-eages, and so to exterminate the slugs and wood-lice, which—small when first introduced into the cages—grow large and fat through the winter by feeding on the pupæ. I have known a slug crawl in a straight course more than a foot up the side of my cage to get at a chrysalis, and then feast on it till there was nothing left but the empty skin; they will also devour whole broods of young larvæ. I find large earth-worms also very troublesome in the flower-pots kept out of doors with hibernating larvæ; they turn the soil upside down, regardless of earthen co-

coons, but how to prevent this *bouleversement* of vested interests I know not.—
TALPA.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange.—I have duplicates of the following insects, which I shall be glad to send to any entomologists. Annexed is a list of my desiderata, for any of which I shall be grateful.

DUPLICATES:—

2 (4), 3 (1), 10, 12, 25 (4), 37, 55 (♂), 65, 67 (4), 73 (1), 74 (3), 85 (1), 87 (1), 160 (1), 164, 173, 179 (2), 185 (2), 370, 373, 410 (2), 413, 491 (2), 496 (1), *B. hirtaria*, *Z. obscuraria* and *S. certata*.

DESIDERATA:—

19, 21, 42, 59, 62, 63, 70, 88, 89, 91, 100, 102, 106, 138, 142, 149, 150, 151, 154, 155, 156, 157, 159, 181, 182, 186, 352, 356, 358, 359, 361, 362, 363, 365, 366, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 385, 428, *Heliothis* (any), 459, 460, 470, 471: larvæ or pupæ of any of the above will be equally acceptable—SIDNEY COOPER, *Stone Bridge, Tottenham; April 1.*

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus BUCCULATRIX.

Since enumerating our wants in this genus (Intel. iv. p. 46) we have been supplied with larvæ of *B. maritima* and *B. Artemisiella*, and we have ourselves fallen in with larvæ of *B. Ulmella*.

We shall, however, yet be glad to receive larvæ of *Frangulella* and *Gnaphaliella*, as also of *Boyerella*, which we have never yet seen.

The larva of *Evonymi*, Z. (*Rhamnella*, H.S.) is still, we believe, undetected, though its day of discovery can scarcely be far distant.

The larva of *Maritima*, like all the others of the genus, makes its cocoon in the peculiar, methodical, inverted way so circumstantially described by De Geer and Lyonet; but that larva being larger than any of its congeners, the operation may be seen on a magnified scale, and is well worthy of attentive study by those who have opportunities of collecting that larva.

A cocoon of this genus, arrested in process of development when half finished, would be a magnificent object for the microscope.

The Genus DEPRESSARIA.

Referring to our notice last year on this genus (Intel. iv. p. 53), we have only to observe that we still want every one of the larvæ there mentioned, *except* three, *Libanotidella*, *Hofmanni* and *Dictamnella*.

Accordingly larvæ of

Propinquella,
Subpropinquella,
Alstrœmeriana,
Purpurea,
Capreolella,
Carduella,
Ocellana,
Rotundella,
Puleherrimella,
Douglasella,

Laterella,
Pimpinellæ,
Cnicella,
Parilella,
Petasitis,
Impurella, &c. &c.,

will be highly acceptable. — H. T. STANTON.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 133.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

THE UNIVERSITIES.

IT is now more than two years since the Oxford University Entomological Society was established, and nearly two years have elapsed since the Entomological Society of Cambridge followed in its wake. We do not presume to infer that Cambridge imitated Oxford, or was led by its example to adopt a similar proceeding, but we merely remark that the establishment of the two Societies was not synchronous.

We were of the number of those who hailed with delight the establishment of these Societies, as we perceived what a valuable help they would be to youngsters in preserving them from the anti-Natural-History feelings of the Universities.

We now venture to approach the rather delicate enquiry of how far these Societies have succeeded, and whether they have yet attained a maximum of usefulness.

The Cambridge Society admits *town* as well as *gown* to the privilege of Membership; the Oxford Society is restricted to *gowns-men*. For the present we will, therefore, confine our

considerations to the latter class of readers.

The gowns-men are divided into two great classes,—under-graduates and those who have taken their degree. Comparatively very few remain at College after the B.A. is attained, but a supply of freshmen annually arrives to fill the vacant rooms left by the departure of those who have passed. A Society composed entirely of under-graduates would be almost a rope of sand; its materials would be constantly changing,—there would be no cohesion, and a grey head would be impossible: such a Society would remind one of the apparently stationary clouds on the summits of mountains when a strong wind is blowing, in which the precipitated vapour is continually forming on one side of the mountain as fast as it is dissolved on the other, so that though the actual form of the cloud appears stationary, its materials *inter se* are in rapid motion, the windward side moves to leeward, is then dissipated and is replaced by fresh clouds on the windward side.

Now, then, a University Society ought to cast out grappling irons in

all directions, with the view of attaining some status by attaching to itself, in a fixed and determinate manner, those who have passed the larva-state of under-graduateship and have attained to the pupa-state of B.A. or the imago condition of M.A.; these would form a nucleus around which the other Members would crystallize.

An under-graduate may attain considerable progress in Entomology before he leaves College, but still we must not expect him to be *very* deep and philosophical, and hence in a Society consisting almost exclusively of that class, though the help it affords to its members may be considerable, we must not expect it to do any great things directly towards the furtherance of our Science.

(To be continued.)

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EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

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Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—I leave Scarborough in a day or two, and shall not be able to give any fixed address for some time. — W. K. BISSILL, 6, Brunswick Terrace, Scarborough; April 4.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CHLOROFORM.—A correspondent enquires, "Can you inform me of anything that will kill moths quicker than chloroform?" Adding, "I find the greatest trouble in killing small moths, such as the Geometrina and Tortricina, which it seems almost impossible to kill, as I have given one chloroform enough to kill three or four butterflies, and looking at it an hour or so after have found it still alive." We cannot understand this; there must be some mismanagement. We use bruised laurel-leaves.

CAPTURES.

COLEOPTERA.

Anchomenus gracilis in Yorkshire.—I have taken several specimens of this insect, in company with *A. pelidnus*, under bark of prostrate fir trees, in Rain-cliff Bog, near here. I met with both insects last year, but the specimens were very few in number, compared with what I have taken this year.—W. K. BISSILL, late of 6, Brunswick Terrace, Scarborough.

Beetles at Westerham.—I have taken the annexed list of Coleoptera, on visits, at various times, to the secluded neighbourhood of Westerham. I have omitted common species which occur everywhere. No doubt there are many scarce species which I have not yet detected, and I hope

in a future list I may be able to name some. I may mention that the country in this part is extremely beautiful, with extensive woods of fir, beech and oak.

Dromius 4-notatus.

„ *melanocephalus*.

Patrobus excavatus.

Amara convexiuscula.

Leptusa fumida. Under bark and in moss.

„ *ruficollis*. Do.

Atemeles emarginatus. Nests of *Formica fusca*.

Coprophilus striatulus. Dung heaps.

Tachinus subterraneus. Fungi.

Silpha sinuata. Dead stoats.

Dermostes murinus. Do.

Nitidula 2-pustulata. Do.

Engis rugifrons. Fungi.

Mycetæa hirta. Dry timber.

Rhyzophagus 2-pustulatus. Under bark of oak and beech and in the rotten wood.

Cicones variegatus. Do.

Mycetophagus atomarius. Do.

Litargus bifasciatus. Do.

Salpingus planirostris. Do.

„ *ruficollis*. Do.

Trypodendron domesticum. Do.

Rhagium inquisitor. Do.

„ *bifasciatum*. Fir.

Anthicus antherinus.

Cistela castanea.

Apion pomonæ. Beateu from fir.

Coccinella ocellata. Do.

Otiobrynechus sulcatus.

„ *scabrosus*.

Chrysomela graminis. In a wet place among *Mentha*.

Mniophila muscorum. In moss.

Endomychus coccineus. In profusion in one beech, under the loose bark; it would appear gregarious.

— H. S. GORHAM, 10, Alfred Street, Montpelier Square, Brompton, S.W.; April 7.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

ON THE GROUP OF THE GENUS GELECHIA ATTACHED TO THE CARYOPHYLLACEÆ.

This group comprises thirteen species at present, ten of which occur in this country. The ten British species are—

1. *Maculea*,
2. *Tricolorella*,
3. *Fraternella*,
4. *Viscariella*,
5. *Maculiferella*,
6. *Junetella*,
7. *Vicinella*,
8. *Leucomelanella*,
9. *Hübneri*,
10. *Marmorea*.

The three Continental species not yet found here are—

11. *Fischerella*,
12. *Moritzella*,
13. *Tischeriella*.

The larvæ of Nos. 5, 6, 7, 9 & 13 are still undiscovered, so that, in the search for them a capital opportunity will occur of testing the accuracy of our prediction that they will all be found to feed on plants belonging to the natural order *Caryophyllaceæ*.

On referring to Babington's 'British Botany,' fourth edition, p. 42, the reader will find that the order *Caryophyllaceæ* is divided into two suborders, the *Sileneæ* and the *Alsineæ*, or, to speak more in the vulgar tongue, the Pinks and the Chick-weeds. It may surprise some to hear that the showy carnation belongs to the same order as the insignificant chick-weed, but so it is. The principal genera of the first suborder are *Dianthus*, *Saponaria*, *Silene* and *Lychnis*. None of the genus *Dianthus* (the true Pinks) are common with us, except in gardens,

and none of them are yet known to be patronized by these larvæ.

The genus *Saponaria* contains only a single British species (the soap-wort); it is not too plentiful with us, which will probably explain why No. 11, *Fischerella*, which feeds on it, has not yet been added to the British Fauna.

The genus *Silene* (Catchfly), of which *Silene nutans*, *inflata* and *maritima* are familiar instances, furnishes, in the last-named species, the food-plant of No. 8, *Leucomelanella*; but the shoots of *Silene inflata* and *nutans* should be carefully examined at this season of the year.

The genus *Lychnis* furnishes us with four common examples, *L. flos-cuculi* (Ragged Robin), *L. vespertina* (White Campion), *L. diurna* (Red Campion), and *L. Githago* (the Corn Cockle).

L. diurna is the food-plant of No. 4, *Viscariella* (which feeds also on *Lychnis viscaria*) and of No. 12, *Moritzella*; but the larvæ peculiar to the other species of *Lychnis* have yet to be discovered.

The principal genera of the second suborder are *Sagina*, *Arenaria*, *Stellaria* and *Cerastium*. On the two first-named genera none of these larvæ have yet been found, though it would be very interesting to find the larva of a microscopic species of *Gelechia* attached to the pygmy plants of *Sagina*. *Stellaria holostea* (Greater Stitchwort) is fed on by the larvæ of No. 1, *Maculea*, and No. 2, *Tricolorella*; whilst *S. uliginosa* is the special food-plant of No. 3, *Fraternella*, though larvæ of this last have also been found on *Cerastium vulgatum*.

It is also upon this last-named plant, or on some closely-allied species of *Cerastium*, that the recently discovered larvæ of *Gelechia marmorea* browse, in a comical subterranean manner. The habitat of this species, the No. 10 of the group, is the shifting sand-hills of the coast,—sand-hills which are scarcely ever at rest, and which in very windy weather are real phenomena: yet these sand-hills are

covered with vegetation; although an undue continuance of a high wind in one direction is very apt to reverse the order of things, and to cover the vegetation with hills of sand. At Dawlish Warren, at the mouth of the Exe, there is a considerable extent of these sand-hills; the *Cerastium* patronized by these larvæ grows all over the Warren, not in large round plants, but in little flower heads, with one or two leaves just sticking above the sand, much of the plant, owing to the shifting nature of the soil, being subterranean; wherever these larvæ are at work they cause the leaves to wither and turn whitish yellow, but the larva itself is rarely visible; it forms a loose petticoat of grains of sand fastened together with silk, and is thus protected from the friction of the loose grains of sand blowing over it: where the larva has been at work, one of these sand-tubes is sure to be seen, and when full fed the larvæ construct their cocoon inside their last sand domicile, and in such firmly closed sand-cocoons the pupa of this insect may be readily collected.

The easiest way of obtaining larvæ of *Marmorea* in plenty may be gleaned from the following notice we received from the discoverer:—

“Accompanied by a friend, I proceeded to Dawlish Warren, and we had a glorious day, as regards weather, but there was nothing on the wing, so we looked for larvæ; I soon found the little white flowers I noticed last year, and soon after one or two little larvæ made their appearance,—some in, some out of their sand cases; we then lay along the sand and looked for them with indifferent success, but on our rising again we found the sand *on which we had been lying swarming with them*; no doubt our movements had frightened them out of their cases, and there they were crawling and wriggling *two or three in every square inch*!”

As these larvæ are excessively abundant, and as each larva does a good deal in the spinning line, and thus fastens many grains of sand together, they are evidently co-operating with the vegetation of the place to render the sand more stationary, and no doubt this small insect has assisted for ages to keep Holland from being overwhelmed by the sea. The co-operation of millions has been going on for centuries, but hitherto unrecognised!—H. T. STAINTON; *April 9, 1859.*

NOTES AND QUERIES RESPECTING APHIDES.

HAVING a prospect of resuming and publishing again my observations on the *Aphides*, I take the liberty of sending to the ‘Intelligencer’ some of the deficiencies in their history, and shall be much obliged for any of the information required. These deficiencies are indicated by queries; the names of the food-plants are mentioned; the number after each species refers to the page in the fourth part of the British Museum ‘Catalogue of Homoptera,’ and when the number is preceded by S. it refers to the Supplemental Part of the same Catalogue.

Aphis comes, 937. Birch. The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. oblonga, 937. Birch. The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. antennata, 938. Birch. The oviparous wingless female?

A. Juglandina, 942. Walnut. The male, the viviparous wingless female, and the oviparous wingless female?

A. bifrons, 947. Alder? The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. hirticornis, 949. Oak? The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. Aceris, 950. Maple. Various species. This insect is especially remarkable on account of the variety of form which it assumes.

A. Acericola, 951. Sycamore. The male, the viviparous wingless female, and the oviparous wingless female? This species may be a periodical variety of *A. Aceris*. I have only observed it in England on one occasion, during a season remarkable for the profusion of *Aphides* which then occurred. It is very abundant in Switzerland.

A. Populea, 951. Lombardy, poplar, willow; various species. The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. Salicis, 951. Willow. The male, the viviparous wingless female, and the oviparous wingless female?

A. Salicivora, 952. Willow. Always wingless?

A. Glyceria, 953. Floating grass (*Glyceria fluitans*), also other grasses, &c., such as *Poa annua*, *Phalaris arundinacea* and *Juncus lampocarpus*. The group to which *Aphis Glyceria* belongs probably contains several other species, feeding on grasses, and yet undescribed.

A. littoralis, 953. Sea-shore grass. Always wingless?

A. hirtellus, 953. Grasses. Always wingless?

A. Cyperi, 953. Rushes. The male and the oviparous wingless female?

A. Eriophori, 953. Hare's-tail cotton-grass (*Eriophorum vaginatum*). The male, the viviparous winged female and the oviparous wingless female?

A. bufo, 954. Sand-reed (*Carex arenaria*) and small bugloss (*Lycopsis arvensis*). Always wingless? This species has a very peculiar structure, and forms a distinct group in the genus.

A. Picea, 954. Silver fir and spruce fir. The male, the oviparous female and the viviparous wingless female? This

Aphis is not of constant occurrence, like several of the following species, but appears and disappears suddenly; it especially inhabits arctic and alpine regions.

A. Pini, 955. Scotch pine. The male and the oviparous female?

A. Pinicola, 955. Scotch pine. The male and the oviparous female?

A. Pineti, 956. Scotch pine. The male and the oviparous female?

A. Abietis, 956. Spruce fir. The oviparous female?

A. costata, 957. Scotch pine, spruce fir and other species. The male?

A. Laricis, 957. Larch. The male?

A. Juniperi, 958. Juniper. The male and the oviparous female.

A. submacula, 958. The male, the oviparous female and the viviparous wingless female? Food-plant? Only two specimens recorded; one found in the Isle of Portland by Mr. Dale; the other taken at Interlaeken, in Switzerland.

A. saligna, 959. Willow shoots. The male and the oviparous female?

A. Roboris, 959. Oak twigs. The male?

A. agilis, 960. Scotch pine and juniper. The male and the oviparous female?

A. Quercus, 962. Oak; in the crevices of the bark of full-grown trees. This species is very remarkable, on account of the especial adaptation of its long proboscis to the structure of the oak bark, and on account of the capacity which it possesses of retracting its proboscis into its body. Dulwich, Epping, Weybridge and Guildford are as yet the only localities in which it has been discovered. The winged female is of very rare occurrence, and thus it is very seldom enabled to migrate, and never occurs in the abundant swarms which are characteristic of many other species of *Aphis*. —FRANCIS WALKER, *Grove, Highgate; April 4.*

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

—
 LINNÆA ENTOMOLOGICA. *Zeitschrift*
herausgegeben von dem Entomologischen
Vereine in Stettin. Dreizehnten Band
 (Vol. XIII). Leipzig, 1859.

THE Lepidopterological paper in the present volume is one of no common interest; it is on the genus *Elachista*, by Professor Frey.

This paper contains descriptions of no less than eighty-five species, and extends to upwards of 130 pages. With respect to the search for larvæ of this genus, Professor Frey makes the following practical remarks:—

“To find *Elachista* larvæ is in some respects difficult, but in others easy. It is difficult on extensive grassy plains and meadows, but is much more easy where the grasses grow less densely together. Many species of *Carex* and *Aira cæspitosa* recommend themselves to the incipient by their mode of growth. But still a careful search is always necessary, in a kneeling or recumbent position, and a certain amount of training is necessary for the eye, but this, after some amount of ill luck, we are compelled to acquire.

“Most *Elachista* larvæ occur in rather shady places, few occur deep in the wood, and few in quite open, unsheltered places. Edges of woods, whether moist or dry, furnish the greatest number of species, and I have found young fir woods very productive. In dry meadows near woods I have found several species, but in the marshy meadows near Zurich, hitherto, to my surprise, I have found none. Those species which are only single-brooded appear to occur for a long time in the larva state, so that one often breeds the perfect insect whilst stragglers of the larvæ are still to be met with (this occurs in *Tetragonella*, *Trapeziella*, *Quadrella*, *Adscitella*, *Cygnipennella*, &c.)

“In rearing the species we meet with no great difficulty, except in a few which are very much infested with parasites. We gather the mined piece of grass as deep below the larva as we can, carry it home in a tin [*and place each kind in a glass tube, and keep it in a cool place], and the species may be reared with ease.

“In this respect the *Elachistæ* are far more praiseworthy objects than the *Nep-ticulæ*. The greater part of the latter fail, but the former mostly succeed.”

Professor Frey has given, at pp. 184, 185, some remarks on the geographical distribution of the group, but the study is yet too much in its infancy for anything of a satisfactory nature to be said on this score. Trained *Elachista*-hunters must spend whole seasons in Italy, Greece, Sweden and Finland before we can be warranted in concluding that the genus is as poorly represented in those countries as it seems to us at present.

The ‘Linnæa’ is a work which is already studied by every British entomologist who is capable of reading German, and to those who have not yet attained that pitch of proficiency we can only say, if they once begin to learn German they will never regret it, but they will continually, in after life, regret not having learned it.

BOMBUS TERRESTRIS’ ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF.

To the Editor of the ‘Intelligencer.’

Sir,—I shall not attempt to describe what I saw a few days ago, when I made my first excursion, on leaving my Hibernacula; no person can do it,—no

* We have altered Professor Frey’s words here a little, to make it accord better with our own experience.

painter can do justice to the face of "smiling Spring;" the balmy freshness and the joyful, universal song, which rises up from every valley, is always wanting. No, sir, it can't be done. The object of my present communication is to let you know who I am; my name is *Bombus Terrestris*,—ah! an old correspondent.

I told you, in my last letter, that I had a few inaccuracies to correct in the little bee-book written by your friend Smith. Turn to page 224 of that book, and you will find that I am called "*Bombus terrestris* of Linnæus." I don't believe that any of my relations ever resided in Sweden; I have made every inquiry on the subject, and I am of opinion that the *B. terrestris* of Linnæus is the female of what Smith has called *B. lucorum*; therefore I am *Bombus terrestris* of Smith,—that of Linnæus being the lady of *B. lucorum*. If any of your readers will look into this, I believe they will be satisfied that I have pointed out another inaccuracy in the bee-book. I don't mean to insinuate that Smith's book has not some merits; for instance, sir, I recognise all my acquaintances at once in the descriptions: they are as correct as some which I saw the other day of persons lost and found, had stolen or strayed, stuck up at the Police Court in Kentish Town.

I've another thing to tell you: I've seen a new book descriptive of several of my acquaintance; it is called 'A Catalogue of British Fossorial Hymenoptera, Formicidæ and Vespidæ;' it is by the same author as the bee-book, and the descriptions are as good as those referred to above. You fancy you know that vixen *Vespa vulgaris*; look into Smith's book, and be sure of it. There are descriptions of all the ants, and I shall have something to say about them in my next.

I must not write more at present, else neither yourself nor your correspondents

will favour me by reading these observations.

Yours faithfully,

BOMBUS TERRESTRIS.

Millfield Lane,

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 134.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FRANCE.

ON Wednesday next the "Séance extraordinaire," or annual Convocation of the French Entomological Society, will take place.

The Meeting will commence its labours at half-past six; so that, in fact, it would appear to us very much like a scientific *soirée*, only with no tea. Nothing but talk.

The programme of the Meeting is tolerably extensive, and every Member of the French Society is requested to express his opinion *viva voce*, or to forward it in writing to the Secretary; but surely now that torture is abolished in civilized Europe, the Secretary is not obliged to read every communication he receives.

The first proposition for discussion is the utility of the provincial Members being more specially occupied with the local Fauna of their respective departments. The Lepidoptera of Northumberland and Durham have been catalogued, and also those of Lancashire; why should we not have catalogues of those in the neighbourhood of Mont-

pelier, Bordeaux, Brest and Strasbourg? The utility of this proposition is so self-evident that we should fancy a long discussion upon it could hardly be necessary, but probably certain entomologists will then be specially selected to prepare these local lists.

The second point for discussion is one that is to us of special interest, and we hope our occupations will allow of our reaching Paris in time to take part in it. It is on some of the laws of Entomological Nomenclature, and principally on the danger of changing the names of genera or species ill-spelt or wrongly compounded by authors. Will not the Societies of Oxford and Cambridge send a representative to this Congress of Paris to advocate their views? Poor Olivier! may he not yet sleep in peace?

The next subject is the perusal of "Mémoires" which may have been forwarded to the Société on the subject of the genus *Eupithecia*. This knotty point will not, however, be discussed by the whole body of Members (fancy meeting a hundred entomologists *all learned* in the genus *Eupithecia*!); for the Society have considered that the *séance* would be too short for the due

discussion of the *Pugs*, and the subject being so special and so difficult it is proposed to refer all the "Mémoires" that may be received upon the group to a select Committee "to which would also be referred those species on which there were any doubts."

The Society will then proceed to take into consideration the period when, and the place where, the Provincial Congress of French Entomologists shall take place this summer.

It is to be observed that this "Séance extraordinaire" will take place at the Hotel de Ville, in the "Salle de la Caisse d'Epargne."

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N.B. Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

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Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. G., LIVERPOOL.—Your insect is common in old fir stumps; it is *Rhagium bifasciatum*.

T. P.—The name of *Saucia* was first given to the *Agrotis* by Hübner, by whom it was figured; it was known in our old catalogues as *A. æqua*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Larvæ of Elachista magnificella.—To-day I visited West Wickham, for the purpose chiefly of obtaining larvæ of *E. magnificella* in *Luzula*; nor was I disappointed, as, after an hour's painful experience of "grubbing," I found about a dozen, several only just commencing their blotch. To judge from appearances, the larva begins mining in the autumn, in a very narrow gallery, for about an inch, and after hibernation at once commences its peculiarly inflated blotchmine. It appears to be common at West Wickham, but in consequence of its concealed mode of life is very difficult to find, and requires the exercise of a large amount of patience.—R. McLACHLAN, *Forest Hill*; April 14.

Insects bred.—During the last five weeks I have bred the following insects:—

March 10 to April 5. A fine series of *Selenia illustraria*.

March 10. *Tephrosia Laricaria* and *Lobophora lobulata*.

March 12. *Cymatophora flavicornis*.

March 20 and 24. *Amphydasis prodromaria*.

March 24 to April 6. *Aleucis pictaria*.

April 8. One *Cidaria Silaceata*. The larva feeds upon *Epilobium angustifolium*.

April 13. *Platypteryx unguicula*.

April 6 to 16. A fine series of *Notodonta Carmelita*.—WILLIAM MACHIN, 35, William Street, Globe Fields, Mile End; April 16.

[What did the larvæ of *T. Laricaria*

feed on? It is a point of much interest to know this, and also to have a description of the larva, in order to ascertain if the species be distinct from *T. biundularella*.]

Captures at Dartford Heath.—The desire to capture that rare species, *Aleucis pictaria*, seems to be kept up this season, judging by the number of parties who have visited this well-known locality. In one night myself and friend took fifteen, all in fine condition, but this was on a fine night: at the same spot, two nights after, not one was seen, as the wind was north, and when such is the case they will not come up: this will serve as a hint for visiting this spot. On the 9th I took one on the well-known Heath fence, with a number of *Eupithecia*, such as *E. coronata*, *E. abbreviata* and others, several of *Lithocolletis Corylifoliella*, *Ulmifoliella*, *trifasciella* and others, with some species of *Nepticula*; but with the change of wind all are gone. Up to the 12th I have bred 15 specimens of *Notodonta Carmelita* from eggs of last year: to save trouble, I must state that I have none for exchange. *Butalis grandipennis* is common on Dartford Heath on the *Ulex nanus*. I may as well state that *Aleucis pictaria* has been bred this season from larvæ taken at Loughton, Essex.—H. J. HARDING, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; April 16.

OBSERVATIONS.

ON THE SOLENOBIE OF LANCASHIRE, &c.

Lately the weather has been so changeable here that I kept postponing my journey to the Moors for my *S. triquetrella*, but I went on Friday: the first thing that occurred after my arrival at the locality was nearly two hours' rain; I then turned over at least a ton weight of big stones, and found the cases sought

were very scarce, and, after all my trouble, the larvæ had in every case *already assumed the pupa state*, so that all my labour was thrown away, and another year must elapse before we get the larvæ.

My cases of *Inconspicuella* have been kept out of doors, and the last few days their inmates have been making their appearance. I have also bred a few females from the cases found on beech trees at Dunham Park, but not a single male; this is my fifth year, and no males. The female from these cases is quite distinct from *Inconspicuella* ♀; though the cases are larger the females are smaller, and the anal tuft is not half the size that it is in *Inconspicuella*. In May I hope to send you a very distinct species that feeds on the trunks of fruit trees at Bristol; unfortunately these also are all females, and no males as yet.

You seem to be in doubt as to the food of these case-bearing insects; it is the fine powdery lichen that is met with on most trees, walls, old palings, &c.; on it I have fed *Pseudobombycella*, *Triquetrella*, *Inconspicuella*, *Melanella*, *Argentimaculella*, &c.

Passing the wall where *Xysmatodoma argentimaculella* occurs, I gathered a few of the larvæ in their queerly formed bags; I hope you may rear them,—they *require damp*.—R. S. EDLESTON, *Bowdon, near Manchester*; April 12.

[We once took a case-bearer on the stem of a plum tree, at Lewisham, and bred therefrom an apterous female. The case was rounder than the case of *Inconspicuella*, and we fancied it ought to have produced a new species; this may be identical with the species which inhabits fruit trees at Bristol; such a frequenter of orchards ought to be named after Pomona, and *if* the species be yet unnamed we would propose the appellation of *Solenobia Pomonæ*.]

Chimabacche Fagella.—I was struck, in my entomological excursions lately,

with the contrast between the habits of *C. Fagella* and *C. Phryganella*. The male of the latter is one of the most active little beings in creation, flitting about, on a sunny November day, hither and thither, in a way that would do credit even to an *Adela*; now *C. Fagella*, on the contrary, slumbers all day against the trunk of some tree, and, as far as I can see, all night too. I found a great many asleep as I was sugaring the other night, and on my return with the lantern there they still were, and still asleep I finally left them. The females crawl up the trees at night, and then the males exert themselves just enough for the purposes of copulation and nothing more. Yet I am persuaded that those powerful wings cannot be really idle all the twenty-four hours, and I fancy they must fly in the morning twilight; but I should have expected them to fly in the day time if I did not know to the contrary.—R. C. R. JORDAN, M.D., *Spring-grove Terrace, Edgbaston, Birmingham*; April 10.

Polyommatus Acis.—In 1835, '36 and '37 I could take *Polyommatus Acis* (the Mazarine Blue) in plenty, but have never seen the species since. I fear that both it and *Chrysophanus Dispar* are gone.—T. PARKY, *Merthyr*; April 15.

HYDRILLA PALUSTRIS AND AGROTIS FENNICA.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—As the only British specimens of *Hydrilla palustris* and *Agrotis fennica* are in my cabinet, I wish to say a few words in reply to the assumption (in the 'Intelligencer,' No. 132) that they are foreign. *Hydrilla palustris* was taken by Mr. Goodwin (a young man who formerly lived here and used to collect for me), in a moist place at Stockton-in-the-Forest, about four miles from here,

either in the last week of May or the first week in June, while I was absent on a journey, and on my return I found it, with other things he thought not worth setting, stuck up against the woodwork in his room. He told me that he had one or two others in his net, but turned them out as worthless. I feel quite certain this insect was taken by him, and I know that Mr. Goodwin neither knew nor had any communication with any dealer in foreign insects, and further I much doubt whether there was a foreign specimen of *Palustris* in England at the time; for when I sent it up to my friend Mr. H. Doubleday to name, neither he nor any one in London who saw it could say what it was; and it was not until Zeller's visit to Epping that Mr. Doubleday ascertained from him its name.

Agrotis fennica was taken, I have no doubt, by John Berestord, of Chesterfield; it has never been properly looked for since, for unfortunately he has done very little in collecting for some years. The mere fact of an insect being taken once and not again seen for years proves nothing. Goodwin once took *Acidalia rubricata* at Stockton-in-the-Forest, but though he hunted the same ground for it for years he never could take a second; luckily I had another specimen, taken by my friend Mr. Baines, or I suppose I should be told that it, too, is foreign.

T. H. ALLIS.

York, April 13.

PS.—Who the Mr. Walker alluded to may be I know not, but I believe I am correct in saying that *Palustris* does not occur in Lapland.

T. H. A.

AN ENTIRE PARISH TURNED ENTOMOLOGISTS.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—The following paragraph, from

the 'Essex Standard' will account for my extraordinary heading:—

"*St. Peter's Church.*—The satisfaction felt at the recent restoration of this church has been damped by a very singular circumstance: the whole of the new sittings in the body of the church are found to be infested with myriads of minute insects, which have somewhat puzzled our local naturalists; but Dr. Becker, a German medical practitioner, pronounces them to be of the class connected with cutaneous diseases. They are supposed to have originated from uncovering the vaults and human bones, in the process of lowering the floor of the church; and at present no remedy has been suggested short of removing the fittings and covering the floor with a coating of concrete. The celebration of Divine service has necessarily been suspended, and the use of St. Mary's Church has again been obtained for evening service, as during the progress of the alterations."

I enclose you a few specimens, and if you could throw any light on the subject I am sure, for one, I should be very much obliged. Dr. Becker informs me he considers the "animal" in question to be the *Acarus dermanyssiformis* of Ehrenberg and Donué.

Yours truly,

W. H. HARWOOD.

St. Peter's, Colchester;

April 11.

[The insects are decidedly an *Acarus*, but what species and what are its habits we cannot say; but no doubt the insect is connected with the new fittings themselves, and has nothing whatever to do with the process of uncovering the vaults; we have, however, forwarded specimens to an entomologist, who may perhaps be able to throw more light on the subject.]

EXCHANGE.

—
 "Exchange is no robbery."—OLD SAYING.

"Robbery is no exchange."—NEW SAYING.
 —

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—Now that the season has commenced, a few remarks on the present "Exchange" system may not be out of place.

It is a slur upon our Science that there are men amongst us who apply the principle of "All fair in love and war" to Entomology,—that the ends justify the means,—men for whom the phrase "Rem honesti si possis, sed rem," might be conveniently shortened to "rem" alone, since honesty or honour have no part in their transactions. One cannot but pity the greedy mind, which, for the sake of a few insects, postage-stamps or boxes, will sacrifice reputation (if it have it), or all chances of ever getting it (if it have it not),—to say nothing of conscience, when present.

Some have been unjustly — others hastily — accused; now and then the accuser has been the culprit; not unfrequently the perpetration of a swindle has gone unpunished, while others have deservedly gained for themselves an unenviable and lasting notoriety.

My chief object in writing this letter is that the victims of these black sheep may no longer, from a feeling of modesty or timidity, be backward in denouncing men who do not deserve the name of entomologists. Barterers or sharp customers we cannot deal with,—they have a right to be so, if they please,—but swindlers it is a matter of common honesty to the public at large to expose. These lines may make a few enemies, but they will lose me no friends.

Trusting that this may have the effect of removing that delicacy which always

prevents our coming forward on such occasions,

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

H. G. KNAGGS, M.D.

1, Maldon Place, Camden Town, N.W.;

April 11.

PINNING AND SETTING
 LEPIDOPTERA.

—
To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I receive four boxes of insects, rare, bred and for the cabinet; I open them successively, and in No. 1 find the insects pinned with the finest possible weapon, leaving a margin of about three-eighths of an inch above for the fingers and one-eighth of an inch below for the cork; consequently in inserting my prize beneath the label, so long a mere unmeaning symbol, down slips the pin into a paper-hidden vacuity in the cork, and my digits are driven into the thorax of *Petasia nubeculosa*, at the same time that his legs are crushed against the cork. In no very satisfactory mood the remaining contents of the box are transferred to the mouldy perils of the relaxer to be repinned.

Now for No. 2. What beauties! but what a marvellous curve their wings have, like those of a partridge,—very suitable to that bird, and perhaps to *Cerastis Vaccinii*, but scarcely appropriate to *Plusia Bractea*; also what singular striæ are on the wings of those *Thecla W-album*,—"Set with thread for a *Leucographa*!" and I am not likely to lose my bet.

No. 3 is a tremendous box—fourpence additional to pay. "Open sesame," and "Oh! skewers and paneakes!" here is *Miana expolita* on a spit fit for the eye of Polyphemus, and *Colocampa vetusta*

with his wings on a dead level, as if set by a theodolite and artificial horizon. Those who have not seen a Continental cabinet, can better afford to go into raptures on the subject than those who have, and to their transports I leave them. We do not ask our Continental co-operators to change their mode and habits, nor do I think the "Long-Pin Club" at home will do more than cause an infinite amount of subsequent relaxing,—at first to their correspondents and afterwards to themselves.

Rather hopelessly I now revert to No. 4, a box of no pretensions, but within, each specimen has an allowance of a full half-inch (of pin) beneath, and nearly the same above, but the plyers (bent) can be applied beneath, and thus all danger for the fingers is avoided. No marks appear on the wings, which are variously inclined, to correspond, in some degree at least, with the natural curvature.

Now, may I add a few words on the *method* of setting. Let a number of pieces of common soling cork be cut about a quarter of an inch (or more) square; then, if you are economical, select the *headless* pins from your box, of all sizes down to one inch, and insert these lengthways through each piece of cork with a pair of pincers; then insert another pin at right angles to the first, from above, thus making a brace (elastic and immovable) of two pins or needles. By a little variation in the angle at which these pins are inserted any amount of pressure may be gained, so as to confine the costal nervure, without in the least degree marking the wing. Having thus gone down the setting-board, the eye will immediately detect the least inaccuracy; finally, when satisfied as to antennæ, &c., lay the board sideways before you, and place the old card-braces on the apex of each wing. A hundred of these pin-braces may be made in an hour at no expense, and the gain in

speed, accuracy and avoidance of injury afterwards is very great.

W. D. CROTCH.

Uphill House, Weston-super-Mare;
April 7, 1859.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

DEAD LEAVES.

When Autumn's blasts drove through the
woods,

The leaves that lately hung
So gay in elfin elegance,
Were rudely torn and flung

To earth, and then were wildly tossed,
Before the scornful breeze,
Until they found a resting place
Around the roots of trees,

Or in damp hollows, where they pressed
And hound themselves together,
Like friends who do not like to part
Because of adverse weather.

Alas! no longer poet-birds,
In greenwood covert hid,
Sing heartfelt songs of melody
Unstudied and unbid;

But through the boughs forlorn and bare,
Sad wintry voices pour
A flood of sobs, and sighs and moans
For leaves now green no more.

Yet though the beauties lifeless lie
They nurse and foster life,
For all the seeming solitude
With insect forms is rife.

Here many kinds of larvæ hide
And shelter from the cold,
And helpless pupæ safe from harm
These withered ones enfold.

Here two-winged flies, Hemiptera
And Hymenoptera too,
With hosts of Coleoptera
Are covered up from view.

Those who would see the lovely forms
And life in death disclose,
Must search the spot where hidden lie
These fairies in repose.

Turn off the upper leaves, and then
Like Sibyl's are the rest;
The fewer left the more the prize,—
The last will be the best.

J. W. D.

ELACHISTA.

Things strange occur to ear and eye
In every hour that passes,
But who would dream that beings lie
Entombed alive in grasses?

The wisest man the world e'er knew
Saw Nature's unveiled features,
But that each blade of grass that grew
Was mined by living creatures,

Secluded in the substance thin,
And finding there subsistence,
Yet leaving on the brittle skin
A trace of their existence,

I think he did not even guess—
At least, in sacred story
No writer ever did confess
This formed part of his glory.

That they, shut up from air, thus live
In narrow galleries ever,
And eating onward grow and thrive,
Shows they are far more clever

Than many a man, who, if his fate
Prescribe him a restriction,
Resigns himself to nought but hate
And sullen malediction;

Whereas if he, like them, did keep
Close to his occupation,
Scarcely letting even his hours of sleep
Withdraw his contemplation

From work before him, ever new
And waiting his dominion,
He would at length emerge to view,
If not with their bright pinion,

Yet with a calm, reliant soul,
That, conqu'ring in time present,
Derives a light that to his goal
Will make his journey pleasant.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 135.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

ANOMALIES.

At the last Meeting of the Entomological Society there were exhibited some remarkable insects sent home by Mr. Wallace from New Guinea, or some other anthropophagous place in the Indian Seas, and among them two Diptera, with appendages projecting *below* the eyes. From their position these were clearly not antennæ, which they somewhat resembled; in one insect they were shaped like a spatula, in the other they were branched like a young stag's horns. In remarking on the singularity of these appendages and their forms, one of our best entomologists said "they were quite anomalous," for which phrase he was called to order by the President. The Member then contended that if we knew a thousand related insects exhibiting only slight variation in any particular organ, and we then discovered another species of the same group with that organ of a totally different structure, we were justified in calling it anomalous. The President, however, persisted in saying that Nature has no anomalies, and in this he was supported by one of the Members, who observed that it is only the

incompleteness of our knowledge of Nature's works that makes us think anything anomalous that is not within the bounds of our experience, and that if we had inhabited the country where the present insects occur, we should think that our now ordinary forms were exceptional. Be this as it may, we should learn by the discoveries of new insect forms continually made by exotic explorers, how little we can yet comprehend the System of Nature. We build up a system, and think it is an assemblage of congruities, when we all at once find insects that will not fit into the structure, and straightway we call them "anomalies," or blinking the question of their obvious differences we force them into some of our pre-arranged or pre-conceived groups.

We need not go beyond the European Fauna to find examples in point. Look at the Psychidæ, which are not very nearly related to any group of Lepidoptera now known to be extant, and yet the latest idea is to place them among the Tineina, which, again, it would not be difficult to show have no character in common *inter se*, not even size, which has been so much relied upon (and whence the Division has its name), to entitle them to be

considered a natural section of the Lepidoptera. Look again at the junction of the Bombyces with the Sphingidæ, on account of an apparent relationship of the groups at some point, the union being made quite regardless of the great dissimilarities in very essential matters of the multitude of species, both in the larva, pupa and imago states.

Such system-making is no following of Nature's teaching: it is a real "anomaly," and cannot be received. It may, indeed, pass muster for a time among Lepidopterists, who are notorious, as a body, for being the least philosophical of entomologists, and there are but few signs that their race contains men who are capable of doing much more than describing species or collecting specimens; at any rate, they have not yet come into the field of print.

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All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

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Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

Mr. STANTON will not be "at home" on Wednesday next; but on Saturday, May 7th, he will conduct an excursion to West Wickham Wood, starting from the mile-stone at Beekenhams Church, at five minutes past six, on the arrival of the Mid-Kent train, which leaves London Bridge at 5.40 P.M.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — As I am leaving Exeter, my friends and correspondents will please to address their communications, after the 6th of May, to — E. PARFITT, *The Museum, Taunton, Somerset.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Having left Windsor, my address, until further notice, will be — R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Eye, Suffolk.*

CAPTURES.

COLEOPTERA.

Wimbledon Common. — Despite the untoward weather, I have succeeded (not without toil) in taking the following species in this locality during the last three weeks:—

Carabus arvensis (12).

„ *catenulatus.*

Anehomenus sex-punctatus (17).

„ *oblongus.* Plentiful in one hollow.

„ *lævis.*

Clivina collaris.

Pterostichus versicolor. Well-marked specimens.

„ *nigrita.* A small and apparently permanent form.

„ *strenuus, Daws. (nec erythropus, Daws.,* which is certainly the commoner species of the two in the Metropolitan district). I have *strenuus* to spare.

Calathus piceus.

Leistus ferrugineus.

Olisthopus rotundatus.

Dyschirius globosus.

Stenolophus luridus. Abundant.

„ *meridianus.*

Bradycellus fulvus.

Amara similata.

„ *communis.* "Lucus a non incendio."

„ *familiaris.*

Notiophilus aquaticus.

Bembidium 4-maculatum.

„ *obtusum.* Plentiful.

„ *doris.* *Certé.*

Lathrobium elongatum.

„ *terminatum.*

Cryptobium fraeticorne.

Coprophilus striatulus.

Homalota luridipennis.

Ocypus cupreus.

Byrrhus dorsalis.

„ *sericeus?*

— E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*; April 19.

Rhynchites Betuleti. — Observing various comments on the advanced state of the season and the early development of insect-life, it may prove interesting to remark that I have taken *Rhynchites Betuleti* from sallow-shoots at West Wickham as early as the 9th instant. This lovely insect has usually been associated in my experience with the heat of midsummer, although I once took it at the end of October. Its appearance thus early somewhat astonished me, and I mention the fact as a signal-note of preparation to Coleopterists, that the operation of beating may now be fairly entered upon. — ALFRED HAWARD, *Gloucester Road, Croydon*; April 18.

EXCHANGE.

Porthesia Chrysorrhæa. — I have a number of the larvæ of the brown-tail

moth (*P. Chrysorrhæa*), and shall be happy to send a supply to any gentleman in want of them, on receipt of a box with return postage. — R. W. WRIGHT, 4, Gloucester Terrace, Victoria-Park Road, N.E.; April 26.

Lost, an Entomologist.—Should this meet the eye of Mr. Joseph Norton Wilkinson, formerly of Stanley Street, Chelsea, he will oblige by communicating his address to the Secretary, Chelsea Entomological Society, 27, Upper Manor Street, Chelsea, as he may hear of something to his advantage.

COLEOPTERA.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

Beetles in Ants' Nests.—The ants have been roused from their winter sleep unusually early this mild spring; *Formica rufa* (the large wood ant) I saw turning out six weeks ago, and the colonies have been more or less active ever since. The beetles that live in their huge nests, which are composed of little bits of stick, and abound in woods, are rarely to be seen *in situ*, but by looking over a handful of the nest at a time on a sheet of paper, they are not difficult of detection, the operator always remembering that such species as *Dendrophilus*, *Saprinus* and *Monotoma* are the last to move, and that the process of examination must not be hurried. The ants will swarm over your hands, and are apt to give sharp nips, so it is advisable, if you are thin-skinned, to wear gloves. Last year there was a great outcry about the destruction of the nests caused by the reckless proceedings of Coleopterists; I said at the time that such destruction was not necessary, and that the ants would soon make good any disruption of the materials of their edifice such as I caused; the inspection of the nests this year has shown the truth of

my statement, for they are as populous as ever; and even some nests, which, in spite of indignant protests, had been very roughly overhauled by other collectors, now show the inhabitants in prosperity and full of spirit. The best way of searching is to lay a cabbage-net on a sheet of paper, place a portion of the nest upon it, let it rest for a minute or two, during which you can brush off the ants which swarm out of it, with a bit of fir-branch or heath, then lift the net and its contents on to another sheet of paper for subsequent examination, and you will find that the most of the beetles, in making their way to the bottom of the mass have, like John Gilpin, gone further than they intended, and now are exposed to view on the paper. With *Formica fuliginosa*, a large, shining, black ant, which is fond of old trees, are found several species of *Myrmedonia* and other beetles. It is not at all necessary to disturb the nest, for the beetles will be seen outside running about among the ants, or may be discovered lurking among the grass at the foot of the tree or adjacent. With another ant, *Formica fusca*, which makes its burrows in hedge-banks, live some great rarities, especially *Heterius sesquicornis*, which is of a sluggish habit, and is only to be obtained by careful examination of the galleries. In the nests of *Formica flava* exists the curious *Claviger testaceus*; there is little chance of taking specimens except where the nests are under stones, as is the case on chalky soils, and then by lifting the stones and looking quickly down one or more of the beetles may be seen, though it requires a keen eye to detect them among the ants, which they resemble in form and colour. There are two other ants which occur in this country, in whose nests we have not yet found any beetles, although they are tenanted by them abroad; I allude to the local *Formica cunicularia*, which is fond of making galleries in hard clay banks, and *Formica sanguinea*, which

burrows in the ground, and does not throw up heaps like its relative, *F. rufa*. If search were made, this year might not pass without the discovery here of *Euryusa coarctata* with the former, and *Myrmecodia Haworthii* with the latter. The nests of *Myrmica* under stones should also be looked at for *Lomechusa paradoxa* and *L. emarginata*; both species, however, also occur with *Formica fusca*.—J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee*; April 20.

Comfortable Reflections for those whose Fruit Trees have suffered by the recent Frosts.—The state of the weather has a great influence on the increase or decrease of all pear-destroying insects. As fine weather at the time of blossoming is uncommonly favourable for laying their eggs, so are rain and strong winds injurious to them, particularly when the expanding of the blossom-buds goes on uninterruptedly, because when this is the case the flowers attain their full size and become expanded before the insects can return to deposit their eggs in them. *The greatest discomfiture they suffer is when frost sets in and destroys all the blossoms and newly-set fruit, as this destroys the food of their offspring.* Thus, though by the accident we lose all our pear crop for one season, yet in consequence of it we are freed from our troublesome guests for a long time, and are therefore indemnified by plentiful crops in after years.—Kollar's '*Insects injurious to Gardens*,' &c.

BIRMINGHAM NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION.—The last meeting of this Association took place on Wednesday evening. The subjects introduced since last report included a communication on the most modern and approved method of capturing, killing and preserving entomological specimens. A most important

feature in this paper was the introduction of an agent for the almost instantaneous killing of any insect, without inflicting the slightest injury upon colour and texture. It need scarcely be mentioned that an improvement in the means of killing insects for specimens, in place of the old method of pinning only, by which the insect may live in agony for weeks, the opprobrium and *horror horrorum* of every humane collector, has been anxiously desired and sought for during the last five years. The agent alluded to, and which seems to leave nothing to be desired on this head, is the pure essential oil of cajeput, distilled from the leaves of the *Melaleuca cajuputi*, a plant growing in the Spice Islands of the Indian Ocean. This agent was first applied to the killing of specimens by a Birmingham collector, and far surpasses chloroform, benzene, prussic acid, and other agents previously and now used. Two fine insects, *Polyommatus Argiolus* and *Biston prodromaria*, were taken a day or two ago in Sutton Park.

KILLING INSECTS.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—By way of postscript to my last note, and in reply to a correspondent who finds chloroform ineffectual (in which, as you say, there must be some mismanagement), I will mention that I make use of a box with a perforated bottom and sliding tray beneath (an old paint-box does very well); in the top the pill-boxes are placed, each one being either notched triangularly in the rim of the lid, or stamped out with a small gun-punch through the bottom, and gauzed. Chloroform may then be poured into the lower tray, the top being of course closed, and half a minute will produce quiescence, or half an hour death in any insect. For

my own part, however, I prefer to place a little tartaric acid in a small saucer below, into which I pour a very few drops of a strong solution of cyanide of potassium; effervescence with evolution of prussic acid takes place immediately, and the impregnated atmosphere proves fatal alike to moths, bees or beetles; indeed I find a drop or two among the bruised laurel-leaves a great comfort on a field day among the Coleoptera, some of which are so determined in their attempts to escape from the bottle.

W. D. CROUCH.

*Uphill House, Weston-super-Mare;
April 18, 1859.*

[Cyanide of potassium, being a deadly poison, is a dangerous thing to recommend for general adoption, more especially by young collectors.]

NEPTICULA ANOMALELLA.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I am probably the first of my family that ever addressed himself to one of the race of monsters to which you belong, and I should not now venture to do so if I were not out of your reach, and that, by the peculiar circumstances of my position I have become aware that you take an interest in the proceedings of creatures, who, though they may appear little when measured by your standard, you cannot deny have a lustrous character and a pedigree older than any your genealogies can show. I am aware also that, although that old fellow Goëze wrote about our ways and manners long ago, and thought them interesting, scarcely any one else of you deemed them worthy of notice until recently, if indeed the record of that author were not altogether ignored; even your Kirby and

Spencee did not seem to know much about some tracks made by our family. And you yourself, although for many years my progenitors have taken leave to work on the rose tree by your window, right under your nose, knew nothing about them until the other day. Pray do not think I am now going to tell you any of the family secrets; if the question were put to the inhabitants of the burrow I am sure the chairman of the meeting would have to say, "The Noes have it."

I flew in at your window one day, and know all that takes place in that den of yours; but you cannot tell what went on in my house, except that when I was in my minority I was a miner, and did not waste my time like some of your kind of minors. What, I should like to learn, do you know of the relationship of my family, or, in my own case, of the way in which I came into the world, how my education was conducted and by whom, how it was I never broke out of bounds, how many suits of clothes I had and what became of the old ones, and how I obtained my present gorgeous array, to which nothing about your race may compare, and which may scarcely be looked at, much less touched by, any of your kind. Except that I ate and grew, you know nothing about me or the mysteries of my inner life, and I would not have cared to tell you so, only you have presumed to write what you call my "history," which is, begging your pardon, only a mere outline sketch. I saw those long rows of lifeless bodies in your museum, and trembled to think what might have been my fate, but I was thankful I was not in your power to be skewered and fixed. I saw your books, too, full of dreadful caricatures of the glorious forms of my family; but for these I forgive you, for you cannot tell how coarse they appeared to my superior vision, short-sighted as you may deem it. I found you did not even know my proper name,—that is, the name I bear at home; how I was

ever called *Nepticula anomalella* passes my comprehension, but I suppose I am anomalous enough to such huge, dull creatures as your race. I saw, among other things, that you have enumerated the number of species in my family; why, you do not even know that they are species, and I am sure that you have not the half of the family,—nay, more, there are many species that, from their way of life, you never will know.

Do not think I intend to abuse the Micro-Lepidopterists, as, in their horrid jargon, they call themselves; I only wish them to understand how little they know about my race,—you, personally, have doubtless done all you could under the circumstances.

These thoughts have been inscribed by a larva on a rose-leaf, as plainly as he could, in the usual family characters, which no doubt you will call hieroglyphics, but I trust that, for the good of your brethren, you will be able to translate, and put them on *your* leaf, in the clumsy form you term print.

I am, Sir,

Not yours,

THE UNCAUGHT NEPTICULA.

ADDRESS TO THE NEPTICULÆ.

Who can divine the characters you trace
On leaves of plants and trees? How
strange they are!

Mysterious symbols! language of a race
Minute, but brilliant as the evening
star.

Are these your epitaphs, which, e'er you
sleep,

You write in curious and fantastic
forms?

Or memoirs of your lives, you, as you
creep,

Inscribe on leafy crypts, poor toiling
worms?

The writing on the wall, the King of
yore

Perplex'd not more than yours on
leaves laid bare;

Part of the hand we see as he before,—

Who can interpret? Where the Daniel
—where?

The cyphers here recorded plainly tell

No human power designed your narrow
mine:

Tell us to whom at first by chance it
fell

To see the mazes of your tortuous
line.

Does Thibet's wondrous tree owe all its
fame

To work of yours upon its fleshy
leaves?

Are ye the reason of that giant name—

"Ten Thousand Images"—which to
it cleaves?

Say, did the wandering Arabs learn to
trace,—

When Art was rude, and men knew
not its powers,—

From shapes invented by your tiny
race,—

Their figures quaint, of foliage, fruit
and flowers?

Or, looking backward, say might not the
love

That kept its watch upon the waters
dark

Have saved your type, and brought it by
the dove,

Upon the olive-branch into the Ark?

These are strange themes, but stranger
still if man

Should pass with heedless eye, and
o'er your brood

Nor spare a thought, nor try your lives
to scan,

When God Himself pronounced all
"very good."

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 136.]

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

THE UNIVERSITIES.

WE spoke lately of the Entomological Societies recently established at Oxford and Cambridge, and of the peculiar position of a Society composed exclusively of gownsmen, and therefore *principally of under-graduates*. The effective power of such a Society will fluctuate much, accordingly as a good or bad crop of entomologists arrives at the autumnal gatherings; and supposing (if it be not treason to suppose such a catastrophe) that for three successive Octobers no entomologists were to arrive at the University, the Society would surely be brought to the verge of extinction.

In such a dilemma we believe that a Society confined hitherto to the University would look anxiously towards the Town. The town entomologists are not birds of passage, and they consequently afford that element of permanence which the fleeting character of a Society composed chiefly of under-graduates mainly requires.

- We fancy that one reason why the Entomological Society of Cambridge admits townsmen, whereas that of Ox-

ford is restricted to Members of the University, is that there are resident entomologists in the town of Cambridge, and there are none (that we know of) at Oxford.

This reminds one, certainly, rather of the reason assigned by the Governor of a Prussian town for not firing a salute on the arrival of his Majesty Frederick the Great. "Sire," said he, "there are fifteen reasons why we omitted the customary salute to your Majesty; in the first place, we had no guns..." Upon this the King stopped him, saying his first reason was so sufficient he need not mention the other fourteen.

However, whatever may be the cause of entomologists existing in the town of Cambridge and not in Oxford, the fact exercises considerable influence on the character of the two Societies.

Oxford has certainly been fortunate in its crop of under-graduate entomologists, and the last batch of freshmen shows no symptoms of the supply falling off; but still it is a risk, and a tremendous risk, constantly incurred.

Judging from our own experience, we should be disposed to say that

hitherto Cambridge has been more fortunate than Oxford in receiving the co-operation of resident entomologists, whilst, on the other hand, there is more fire and energy amongst the undergraduates at Oxford than at Cambridge.

As a locality for insects we do not think either University is first-rate. Cambridge used to be much better than it is, but the bad system of draining so prevalent now-a-days has turned many an acre of fen into arable land, and corn is actually now grown where formerly the entomologist used to chase *Machaon*. Oxford has to regret the pheasant-loving propensities of the fellows of St. John's, which causes Bagley Wood to be carefully preserved: the only cure for this evil that occurs to us is to get a majority of the fellows at St. John's infected with the entomological mania.

(To be continued.)

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EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

| | s. | d. |
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| Under half a column . . . | 0 | 6 |
| Above half a column, but under half a page . . . | 1 | 0 |
| Above half a page, but under a page | 2 | 0 |

Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W., HATFIELD.—Your larvæ on *Scrophularia nodosa* would probably be those of *Cucullia Verbasci*, which feeds as freely on *Scrophularia* as on *Verbasum*. Early specimens of *M. stellatarum* have hibernated.

G. H. P.—You must be mistaken in imagining you have met with *Noctua glareosa* and *Heliophobus popularis* now.

H. G. J.—On a sunny afternoon, walk down Redpost Hill towards Dulwich, and look closely on the grassy bank to your left hand. *Villica* will probably be sunning itself on the bare ground near the foot of the palings. If unsuccessful at first, don't turn into Dulwich, but continue the road towards Forest Hill. Persevere for ten days in succession.

W. H. S.—THE ACARI AT COLCHESTER.—The differences to which you allude are partly due to sex, partly to age. *Acari*, like spiders, grow.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Captures at Darenth Wood, April 22.—On beating the sallows this morning in the Wood, I found a larva of *Apatura Iris*; there was no mistaking it, as the two horns at the head distinguish it from all other larvæ. My next capture was a fine *Notodonta trepida*, just out; then a fine *Ennomos illustraria* graced my net,—a female, which has laid me a goodly number of eggs; these with a number of *Lithocolletis* and *Nepticula*, with others,

made me up a good day's sport.—H. J. HARDING, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch.

Recent Captures at Taunton.—

- P. Argiolus. On a laurel hedge.
- A. Villica (larvæ).
- S. Pavonia-minor. At light.
- C. Spadicea. Do.
- C. Verbasci. Do.
- X. Lithoriza. Do.
- S. Illustraria. Do.
- B. Prodrornaria (common). Do.
- P. Pilosaria. Do.
- S. Clathrata. Do.
- A. Derivata. Do.
- X. Conspicillaris. Bred from pupa at elm.
- T. Miniosa. Bred from pupa at oak.
- C. Scrophulariæ. Bred.
- B. Hirtaria. Bred from pupa at elm.
- E. Abbreviata. Bred from pupa at oak.
- H. Arbnti. Bred.

The season, I need hardly say, is as forward here as elsewhere. *A. Cardamines* was out at the beginning of this month. I have also taken a specimen of *Cidaria Immanata*; is there a spring brood of this insect?—W. G. RAWLINSON, *The Chestnuts, Taunton, April 25.*

COLEOPTERA.

Coleoptera in North Devon.—Since the end of last January I have commenced collecting Coleoptera. I fancy this part of the county will prove to be richer in this order than any other part of England, when it has been thoroughly searched, particularly Braunton and Northam Burrows, and the rocks about Lynton and Lynonth. All those species which have been taken on the opposite coast, near Swansea, will probably turn up here

when looked for. I have already taken the following *Geodephaga*:—

Cicindela campestris. Abundant in woods, &c.

(*C. maritima* occurs abundantly at Braunton Burrows, but I have not yet taken it.)

Dromius linearis. Common.

D. quadrimaculatus. Rare.

D. foreolus. Abundant; Instow.

Clivina fossor. Abundant under stones in damp places.

Carabus catenulatus. Common.

C. granulatus (2). In *débris* of old stumps.

C. nemoralis. Scarce.

Leistus spinibarbis. Abundant.

L. ferrugineus (1).

(*Nebria complanata*, according to Stephens, is abundant here.)

N. brevicollis. Abundant.

Notiophilus semipunctatus (1).

Loricera pilicornis (4). Under stones.

Pauagæus crux-major (38). Under moss and rotten bark on alders.

Badister bipustulatus. Rather scarce.

Oodes helopioides (2). Under moss.

Chlænus vestitus. Common in damp places.

Pogonus chalceus. Common under mud, &c., on the banks of the Taw.

Sphodrus leucophthalmus (1).

Calathus cisteloides. Abundant.

C. flavipes. Abundant at Instow and Braunton Burrows.

C. mollis. Do.

C. melanocephalus. Do.

Anchomenus junceus (1).

A. dorsalis. Abundant.

A. pallipes. Do.

A. oblongus (1).

A. marginatus (1).

A. sexpunctatus (18).

A. lævis. Common.

A. mæstus (2).

A. atratus. Common in rotten wood.

A. fuliginosus. Abundant under moss on alders.

A. gracilis (15). In the same locality.

Pterostichus cupreus. Abundant.

P. dimidiatus (2).

P. striola. Common.

P. niger (2).

P. oblongopunctatus (3).

P. madidus (20).

P. melanarius. Common.

P. nigrita. Do.

P. minor (7).

P. vernalis. Abundant.

P. erythropus. Scarce.

P. strenuus. Do.

Stomis puniceus. Very abundant under stones in damp places.

Amara acuminata (2).

A. trivialis. Common.

A. lucida. Common at Braunton Burrows.

A. apricaria (?). Several.

Anisodactylus binotatus. Braunton Burrows.

Harpalus azureus. Rare.

H. ruficornis. Abundant.

H. æneus. Do.

H. rufipes. Do.

H. tardus. Common at Braunton Burrows.

Bradycellus fulvus. Abundant.

Bembidion rufescens. Rather common under moss.

B. biguttatum. Common.

B. guttula. Do.

B. concinnum (7).

B. littorale (6).

B. flammulatum (4).

B. lampros. Abundant.

B. quadrimaculatum. Rare.

Besides these I have still several species unnamed. — G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; April 22.

OBSERVATIONS.

Observations on Melitæa Athalia and Tephrosia Laricaria. — After about an

hour's hard work on my hands and knees in the locality where *Melitea Athalia* swarms in June, I succeeded in finding one half-fed larva on *Plantago lanceolata*; the day (20th instant) was very bright and warm, so if the larvæ are gregarious, as it is generally supposed, how was it I did not see more? *M. Artemis*, as every one knows, is easily found on a warm day where it occurs, crawling about the scabious, &c. I intend having another good hunt for it; the larva of *Athalia* is much handsomer than that of *Artemis*. I bred a beautiful female specimen of *Tephrosia Laricaria* from a pupa dug under elm. I have several more pupæ, but I fear they are all dead. I have taken the perfect insect at rest on an alder tree.—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; April 22.

Larva of Tephrosia Laricaria.—In reply to your enquiry respecting the larva of *T. Laricaria*, I regret to say I made no description of it at the time of capture, and, although it is well known to me by sight, I am unable at present to describe its characters further, than by saying that it is a bright reddish brown larva; on the first segment below the head is a considerable projection extending round the neck; it feeds on birch in August and September. There appear to be two broods in the year; I have taken the larvæ of the first in June, and bred the imago (which are smaller in size, but of the usual smoky colour of the early brood) in July.—W. MACHIN, 35, *William Street, Globe Fields, Mile End*; April 23.

Acherontia Atropos.—On Monday, the 11th instant, I had a perfect male specimen of *A. Atropos* out. This, as well as several others which I bred in the autumn, I have kept in mould in a hot-house (not too near the flues), and kept damp.—EDWIN SMITH, 3, *Jersey Cottages, Hewlett Street, Cheltenham*; April 25.

EXCHANGE.

Glyphipteryx Haworthana.—Having collected a quantity of the heads of cotton-grass with pupa of *G. Haworthana* inside, and having some to spare, I shall be glad to send them to any one who may want them.—T. V. PRESCOTT, 40, *Mount Street, Salford*; April 26.

TRICHIOSOMA LUCORUM AGAIN.

The following enquiry will amuse our readers:—

“Are there any of the larvæ of moths that do not chrysalis? My reason for asking this question is that one of the larvæ I found (and fed) on hedge-thorn last year formed itself into a very hard cocoon, nearly as hard as an egg-shell. On or about the 27th of March, as I was cutting the end of the cocoons of some of the Eggars and Emperors, to see if the chrysalides were alive, I also cut the end of this small, hard one, and found the larva the same as it was in August when it made the cocoon. On the 1st of April I chanced to look at it again, when I found the cocoon empty, and the larva beside it with its last skin off,—not in a chrysalis, but with legs, &c., and all appearance of the perfect insect; it was green at first, but now it is black. It appears to me to be one of the *Sphinx*, from its antennæ being much the same as the Burnet Moth: it is as yet quite naked,—no plumage. The larva was green, quite smooth and naked; no horn, spine or anything on it; the head a reddish brown. I shall be glad to hear from you.”—W. C. G.

The insect in question has no doubt been that Hymenopterous insect con-

cerning which we get more letters from Lepidopterists than can readily be imagined; its scientific name is *Trichiosoma lucorum*. We have already written about it more than enough. W. C. G. is referred to the speech made by *T. lucorum* at the "Important Meeting of Saw-flies," recorded in the 'Intelligencer,' vol. ii. p. 133.—H. T. STANTON; April 27.

A CALENDAR OF LEPIDOPTERA.

(See Intel. Vol. V. pp. 181 and 204.)

LARVÆ TO BE LOOKED FOR IN MAY.

5, 15, 16, 22, 23, 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 43, 44, 47, 51, 54, 55, 57, 59, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 100, 102, 110, 120, 130, 131, 133, 137, 138, 142, 144, 146, 159, 160, 164, 165, 166, 392, 393, 402, 407, 411, 414, 417, 418, 419, 426, 441, 474, 480, 484, 487, 488, 495, 496.

Many of the above are best found by the aid of a lantern, being night feeders. In all probability the larvæ of *C. Davus* and *E. Cassiope* would be found in May.

IMAGOS NOW FOR THE NET.

5, 10, 11, 14, 47, 50, 51, 55, 56, 58, 60, 61, 65, 67, 73, 74, 75, 87, 88, 89, 96, 101, 104, 114, 117, 118, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 132, 133, 134, 139, 172, 187, 189, 190, 195, 199, 224, 228, 265, 279, 297, 437, 445, 452, 460, 462, 494, and *H. Palustris*?—E. TEARLE, Gainsborough; April 26.

A RING-NET WANTED.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—Can you inform me where I can get a ring-net in London? I want one

that will turn into a walking-stick, into which I can put the cane-ring.

REV. G. RUDSTON READ.

Sutton-on-Derwent, near York;

April 25.

LITHOCOLLETIS QUERCIFOLIELLA.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I am quite ashamed of the letter which that little upstart creature of a *Nepticula* sent to you last week, but I am not surprised when I consider the character of the sender; it is just what you might expect from a member of his family, whose adult bearing is full of consequential self-importance. Poor things! I believe they cannot help it; it is hereditary, and so they have my pity. He says his race is only little by comparison; but the whole family have the swagger and strut of little people, which I look upon as a kind of compensation given to them by Providence for their insignificant appearance, and no other evidence is required to show their absolute littleness, because if they were really great in their deeds there would be nothing to assume. When you consider the obscure origin, the *res angustæ domi* and tortuous policy of the race, the ultimate brilliant appearance of the creatures is not a thing to boast of. I own they have a very lustrous plumage, but my family is quite as old and as good as his, and hold up their heads with reason when they think of the glorious decorations on their escutcheon, where too appears no bar sinister, which is more than can be said of some people

with tinsel ornamentation. Indeed I think our bearing is modesty itself, even when compared with such plain plebeian creatures as *Ornix* and *Gracillaria*, with whom, as they are not disagreeable companions, we often manage to associate, though you well know what stuck-up beings they are.

Nepticula throws off his spleen at the Micro-Lepidopterists, a name, he says, they give themselves in their "jargon." Why this is only the common trick of those who ridicule what they cannot understand; and then he says he does not intend to abuse them—certainly not you in particular. This only proves he does not know the meaning of the words he uses, and thus he lets you see what a flat he is; this, however, you knew long ago, for you had measured the depth of his mine, about which he is so facetious, and were aware that the tenant, like it, must be very shallow.

The truth is that the whole race is annoyed that you have said so much about them, so they put the best face they can upon it, and, having been so long unnoticed, they now would have it thought that, from the attention bestowed upon them, they are of great importance. It would have been far better for his species, if, instead of parading their accomplishments before your eyes—or nose, as he has it, just as if he thought they gave the perfume to the rose—they had kept their doings *sub rosa*, and saved the rest of the Scale-wings all the trouble his communication has caused them.

I am not deputed to speak on behalf of all the other Micros; indeed the circumscribed nature of my life prevents me from knowing what they think on this matter, but I am sure they will all agree with me in confessing that they are under

great obligations to you for drawing the attention of mankind to them. You have said all that it is necessary to be known about us, for as for our inner life, of the ignorance of which you are taunted, I doubt if—from the dissimilarity of our organization—you could understand it; I am sure of one thing, neither we nor he could enlighten you, for we do not understand it ourselves. As regards our work, we challenge a comparison with that of any *Nepticula*. We know that we not only make our dwelling serve for our life-time, but that it lasts and preserves us till our final change comes, unless indeed some tom-tit or other wild beast snatches our body out of its tomb, but for such accidents we are in no way responsible. These boasting *Nepticulae*, on the other hand, with the exception of the solitary species of the *Vaccinium*, are glad to leave their house, and hide themselves in holes and corners under cover of a cocoon; it is no wonder, then, that they are annoyed at you for exposing their vagrant actions, in contrast with such histories as those of my respectable family and others. In this communication I have preserved the usual serenity of my disposition, and though I live in the oak I have not used any of the gall.

Yours ever at hand,
LITHOCOLLETIS QUERCIFOLIELLA.

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BIRMINGHAM

Natural History Association.

IT is a remarkable fact that Birmingham, the centre and even head of the General Manufacturing Towns of the Kingdom, though having valuable Educational Institutions, has not for a long time possessed a single popular Scientific Society. This is the more to be regretted when it is considered that for general intelligence and practical skill Birmingham is equal to, if not in advance of, the other large towns of the Kingdom. Whilst the intelligence of the working classes especially gives them a political power and influence superior to most towns, there can be no doubt that the general diffusion of Scientific knowledge amongst the bulk of the people is far greater in such towns as Manchester.

It is not known that Birmingham ever possessed a Society dedicated expressly to the cultivation of a knowledge of natural objects. This want being long felt, a few persons met together several months ago, and invited the aid of others interested in the subject, and the result was the formation of a Society called "THE BIRMINGHAM NATURAL-HISTORY ASSOCIATION," for the cultivation of Entomology, Botany, Ornithology, and any other subject within the range of Natural History.

They beg to appeal to all those who have acquaintance with any branch of Natural History, and to those who may desire to prosecute the subject, to aid, by joining the Association, and thus assist to promote the object in view.

By the kindness and generosity of the authorities of the Midland Institute, the Association is supplied with a room at the Institute in which to hold its meetings.

The Terms of Membership are Two

Shillings per Quarter, and an Entrance Fee of One Shilling, both in advance.

Applications for Membership or for information may be addressed to the President, W. HINDS, Esq., M.D., Parade; the Vice-President, Mr. AARON FRANKLIN, 127, Suffolk Street; or to any of the following Members:—

- Mr. WILLIS, 6, Bath Row.
 „ HANBURY BARCLAY, Belgrave House, Edgbaston.
 „ BURNS, 67, Edmund Street.
 „ ADAMS, 13, Congreve Street.
 „ JONES, Warwick Road, Sparkbrook.
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W. H. BAYLIS, *Secretary*.
 73, Ashted Row.

FOR SALE.—A Collection of British Lepidoptera, comprising most of the Genera to the end of the Geometræ.

For Catalogue and Price apply to E. W. TAYLOR, 75, London Wall, City, where they may be viewed.

Notice to Entomologists.

MR. J. C. STEVENS will Sell by Auction, at his Great Room, 38, King Street, Covent Garden, on Friday next, May 13, at half-past Twelve precisely, the EXTENSIVE COLLECTION of BRITISH INSECTS formed by the late T. C. HEYSHAM, Esq., of Carlisle, and the four excellent MAHOGANY CABINETS in which it is contained. The Collection comprises all the Orders, including many great rarities.

May be viewed on the day prior and morning of Sale, and Catalogues had.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 137.]

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1859

[PRICE 1*d.*

THE UNIVERSITIES.

To notice the existence of the Entomological Societies at Oxford and Cambridge, and to call attention to the difficulties they have had, and still have, to contend with, and not to call attention to what they have accomplished, would be an ungracious task.

On the 7th of November, 1857, there appeared in the columns of the 'Intelligencer' a demand for some guide to the pronunciation of scientific names. This subject was taken up rather warmly by several entomologists, and by Christmas, 1857, a proposition was made to publish the required "Gradus" by the co-operation of the two Entomological Societies of Oxford and Cambridge. This proposal found many supporters, and it has now resulted in the publication of a neat 8vo of 118 pages, entitled 'An Accentuated List of the British Lepidoptera, with Hints on the Derivation of the Names.' A notice of this work has already appeared in our pages (see 'Intelligencer,' vol. v. p. 182); yet, for the more general enlightenment of our

readers who do not possess this "List," we proceed to make a few observations.

The volume before us commences with a "List of authors and nomenclators whose names are adopted in the Catalogue," and this extends to forty-four pages, containing biographical and bibliographical notices of the various authors, some of which—as, for instance, those of Fabricius and Linné—are rather lengthy, extending to four pages or more. There is certainly much in this introductory portion which should be serviceable to the rising generation, as there are few students but will find their aims elevated by the attentive perusal of biographies.

"Lives of great men all remind us,"
 &c., &c.

We next arrive at the body of the work, where one page is devoted to the rules of pronunciation, and then the list commences, and as a sample of the work we cite the following:—

"*PAPILIO*, L., *Păpiliŏ*, *papilio*, a butterfly. Linnæus first attempted to combine in some degree Natural and Civil History, by attaching the names of personages, illustrious in their day, to

insects of particular kinds. His first division of the Butterflies consists of *Equites* (Knights), and these are subdivided into *Troes* and *Achivi* (Trojans and Greeks). A Greek knight heads the list.

"MACHAON, L., *Machá'on*. The hero of this name is mentioned by Homer, Il. ii. 731:—

"'The two sons of Æsculapius, skilled in leechcraft, Podalirius and Machaon.'"

Our readers must not imagine that this volume is one which gives us *perfect satisfaction*; we shall continue to talk of *Cassí'opē*, in spite of the instructions here given to pronounce it *Cas-sio-pee*, which is but one remove from the erroneous pronunciation we have often heard of *Cas-si-ōpe*.

In the list of species there are some singular omissions, the purport of which we do not clearly comprehend; but these little accidents will occur, and the "best laid plans of mice and men oft gang alee."

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| Above half a page, but under a page | 2 | 0 |

Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Dr. Wallae has removed from No. 5, Green Terrace, Clerkenwell, E.C., to 23, Bedford Place, Bloomsbury, W.C.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. B.—The insects are not Lepidopterous, though described by Linnæus as such; they are *Aleyrodes proletella*, and belong to the sub-order HOMOPTERA.

E. H. S.—They feed on the wood of willow and other trees; duration of life rather uncertain.

A. E.—Many thanks for the offer of larvæ of *Cervinata*, but want of time prevents our attending to any larvæ but those of our own specialties, the Tineina.

C. G. O. enquires where can he get bottles for rearing Tineina larva? We get our glass tubes of H. Baker, 90, Hatton Garden; he being a glass-tube maker can make anything to order. For localities near Norwood, we cannot do better than recommend West Wickham Wood and Shirley Common.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Deilephila Livornica.—In the autumn of 1857 three specimens of *D. Livornica* were caught by a man, flying around a lamp near the door of his house, about a mile from this city. He was totally ignorant of the nature of his capture, being no entomologist. He gave them to a friend of mine, from whom I have had the gratification of receiving two, and which I have set and gladly placed in my cabinet. They were taken upon different nights, and both of them are in tolerably good condition. In order that I might be fully convinced of the truth of the circumstance, my friend accom-

panied me to the person who had captured them, and the account he gave me was highly satisfactory. I have obtained a written testimony of the capture duly and properly signed.—A. EDMUNDS, *The Tything, Worcester; May 7.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Larva of Coremia munitaria.—Last June, Mr. Chapman, of Glasgow, kindly sent me eight eggs of the above. They hatched the day after they reached me. Mr. Chapman did not know their proper food, so I tried dandelion, but they did not like it. I then tempted them with groundsel, which they devoured with avidity. After the first moult three died, and the remaining five seemed disposed to follow their example. However, they continued to eat slowly, without increasing much in size throughout the summer and autumn. In January they began to feed again, rapidly increasing in size. By the beginning of March they were full fed, and about a fortnight since became pupæ. The following is a description of the larva, when full fed:—Length one inch; ground-colour dull green or brown, very variable; segments pink or flesh-coloured. The body is slightly sprinkled with black dots, with two very distinct blotches on the sixth and seventh segments, the latter being the largest. The caterpillar spins up in moss, and the pupa is brown. I am now breeding lovely specimens (forced) of *Eupithecia similaria* from larvæ beaten off black currants.—REV. J. GREENE, in the May number of the 'Zoologist.'

Ants'-Nest Beetles.—Thinking it high time I saw an ants'-nest beetle, and getting quite tired of waiting to see one from the London District, I wrote to Perthshire for a bag or sackful of ants'-nest rubbish, to be forwarded per rail, and

have received one bag from Mr. G. King, which promises to be a productive importation. I have no maudlin sympathy for ants, consequently don't scruple to have a few hundreds of thousands quietly kidnapped and sent here with their building materials, but should certainly prefer their being left at home, if possible. This morning I had from 6 A.M. to 8 A.M. with them, and after disposing of some thousands of ants I got at the beetles. First, a little yellow-tailed *Staph.*,—another and another,—oh! no end of them. All one species, though!—no! there's another species, and a fine fellow. Come, I can see this; but what is that *dust moving about?* Why, under a powerful glass, they are not dust but beetles! Yes, and scores of them; and, thought I, if I can find any one to care about these atoms I shall have plenty to give. I have placed the bag in a cool outhouse, and purpose examining its contents more at my leisure.—C. S. GREGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool; May 3.*

EXCHANGE.

Duplicates.—I have bred specimens of the following, and have them to spare:—

Papilio Machaon.

Saturnia Pavonia-minor (also eggs).

Anticlea Badiata.

Hypogymna Dispar (larvæ).

I shall be glad to exchange for either of the under-mentioned:—

Thecla Betulæ,

„ *Pruni,*

or any local species.—GEORGE LUMB, *Kirkgate, Wakefield; May 2.*

Exchange.—I have the following for exchange:—Nos. 16, 18, 19, 29, 33, 48, 52, 53, 99, 104, 130, 146, 176, 210, 227, 280, 293, 297, 389, 390, 391, in good condition, for eggs, larvæ or pupæ of the under-mentioned:—15, 87, 88, 90, 96,

97, 98, 105, 106, 119, 124, 159, 184.—R. BOYD, 186, *South Street, Park, Sheffield.*

The end of the Brown Tails.—The applications I have received for the larvæ of *P. Chysorrhæa* have far exceeded my expectations. I have distributed nearly 700, in batches varying from twelve to twenty, and my stock is quite exhausted. This day week the postman brought the boxes in a separate bag, and suggested to the servant the propriety of her “bringing a clothes-basket” to take them in. I hope to take a further supply in about a fortnight, and will then send a supply to those gentlemen who have not yet received them, and hope they will not be disappointed at my inability to send them at present.—R. W. WRIGHT, 4, *Gloucester Terrace, Victoria-Park Road, Hackney, N.E.; May 9.*

MR. STAINTON'S EXCURSION TO WEST WICKHAM.

THE weather, which remained perseveringly cold up to Friday, on Saturday changed for the better, and that day (though by no means oppressively hot) was pleasant and genial.

Two entomologists met Mr. Stainton at Beckenham church, and two others were met with in the wood, but nothing of extraordinary rarity fell to the lot of any of the party. Yet, on second thoughts, perhaps this can hardly be quite true, as one gentleman (we feel we ought not to call him an entomologist) showed Mr. Stainton an insect, and enquired (*Proh pudor!*) whether it was a bug or a beetle? Now if this insect was so constructed that its position was positively doubtful whether it ought to be referred

to the Mandibulate Coleoptera or to the Haustellate Hemiptera, *no doubt it was a great curiosity*; but if there was no doubt as to its affinities, why should such a question be put, unless it were to prove the necessity of Examinations in Entomology.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus *DEPRESSARIA*.

WE called attention lately (Intel. No. 132, p. 15) to the larvæ which we are anxious to receive belonging to this genus, with the view of working out, if possible, sufficient histories of the flat-bodies to enable the sixth volume of the 'Natural History of the Tineina' to embrace the twenty-four species of the genus *Depressaria*.

We had not space then to do more than refer to our notice, a year ago, on the subject of this genus; but having now nearly overtaken all our arrears of more important matter, we recur to this subject more in detail.

The thistle- and kuapweed-feeding larvæ of *Depressaria Propinquella* and *Subpropinquella* will be acceptable to us when they make their appearance in July. Both larvæ, we believe, undergo a considerable transformation in their process of growth, the juvenile larvæ having black heads and shoulders, whereas their seniors have a pale brown physiognomy, and the second segment more nearly concolorous with the green body. We mention this fact, lest any inexperienced collector should assume that the black-headed larvæ were one species and the brown-headed larvæ

another; he would then infallibly arrive at the conclusion that each larva produced both species, and would so prove, *to his own satisfaction*, that *Propinquella* and *Subpropinquella* were one species.

Alstræmeriana should be looked for towards the end of June amongst the leaves of *Conium maculatum*,—it feeding with impunity on that which poisoned Socrates.

Purpurea should be searched for in the leaves of *Torilis Anthriscus* late in June, but whether it is easy to distinguish from the universally common pest *Applana*, we cannot say.

Capreolella has once been bred from a greenish *Applana*-like larva found near Mickleham, on the 26th of June, on the pinnate radical leaves of *Pimpinella Saxifraga*.

Carduella has been bred by Mr. Boyd from a grey-green larva, with dark head, which fed on the under side of the leaves of the thistle, on the Dowus near Lynmouth, on the 26th of July.—H. T. STAINTON; May 9, 1859.

A NEGLECTED SHARK.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I write to say that I am most unaccountably neglected. I have lately been passed without ceremony by mistake for *Cucullia Umbratica*, and though on two occasions, when taken for that insect, incipients pierced me, they did so in a careless way, evidently deeming I was that very common species. Who ever takes *Umbratica* as early as this? or who ever sees *Umbratica* with plumage as dark as mine?

Yours much neglected,

CUCULLIA CHAMOMILLÆ.

Palings, near Charlton;

May 10.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The British Tortrices. By S. J. WILKINSON. London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row. Price 25s.

THIS long-expected work has at length appeared, and we believe will be found to answer the end for which it was designed, and, by removing a main impediment to the study of the Tortricina, will be the cause of more attention being paid to that group than has of late been the case.

The Tortricina, from the greater uniformity of structure and more general similarity of habit, can never compete with the Tineina in attractiveness; but their larger size and the delicacy of markings of many of the species have always a tendency to ensure for them a due amount of attention, whilst the ravages of many of the larvæ on our rose bushes and fruit trees are sure to attract the notice of all interested in gardening pursuits.

Those horrid *Lozotania* larvæ have lately been devouring with great gusto many of our apricots, first gnawing the fruit externally, under the shelter of a neighbouring leaf, or protected by the decaying blossom, and then gradually establishing a complete retreat in the centre of the fruit itself. It is quite impossible for any one to walk in a garden and ignore the existence of the Tortricina.

The number of species introduced in Mr. Wilkinson's volume is 298,—little more than half the number of the species which we meet with in Mr. Stainton's

work on the Tineina, yet that extended to only 307 pages, whereas Mr. Wilkinson's volume extends to 320, and as the type in the two volumes is similar, it is scarcely necessary to remark that Mr. Wilkinson's descriptions are much more lengthy than those of Mr. Stainton, and at the same time more space is devoted to the habits of the insects and to the points of distinction by which they may be separated from the nearly allied species.

As to the descriptions of the insects, we quote as follows from the author's preface:—"All the descriptions have been made from the insects themselves, without reference to what has been done by other authors; and the manner of writing them is uniform throughout. Whilst describing the anterior wings, I have, wherever practicable, taken the palest tint as the ground-colour, and then have noticed the separate markings, commencing at the base and proceeding to the apex."

Some ingenious correspondents remark that the work would have been more complete with a glossary, but we are at a loss to see for what purpose such an appendage should be needed; to explain the terms of colour it would have been useless, as seldom are two persons found to agree precisely in their notions of colour, and though what an author calls "olivaceous-fuscous" in one species, he will probably similarly designate if describing another species, yet a different author would probably have chosen a totally different phraseology to express this particular shade of brown. Any words not applying to colour used in the de-

scription explain themselves, if any one will take the trouble to hold some well-known species (*Tortrix viridana*, for instance) in his hands, and then read over the description slowly till he works out, to his own satisfaction, the meaning intended by the author in each separate word used.

Many persons labour under the delusion that everything should be so plainly written that its meaning should be apparent, *without the slightest study*, and cavil with an author because, though supplying a certain amount of information, he has not likewise given his readers a capability of duly benefiting by it. Nine times in ten, if an author is not understood, the fault *lies with the reader*.

(To be continued.)

THE SONG OF GELECHIA TERRELLA.

COMING over wood and meadow,
Gardens fertile, commons bare,
Joyously the voice of Evening
Rises through translucent air.

Comes, too, Evening's handmaid, Twilight—

Aspect neither dark nor fair—
Feet gloom-hidden, but a glory
Plays around her golden hair;

Face upturned and looking always
Skyward for the evening star,
Garments scented with the odours
Gathered by her near and far,

As they—offerings of the flowers—
In her pathway crowded round,
And some, in her progress scattered,
Kiss her footprints on the ground.

Underneath the Sun's gaze fainting,
Hoping he would quickly pass,
All day long for her I waited
Torpid, lifeless, in the grass.

Now to dance and play before her
Gladly I prepare to rise,
For 'tis pleasant to find favour
In the love-light of her eyes.

Short my flight, yet how delightful
Is this hour I call my own,
Ere the darkness comes to tell me
That the time for flight has flown.

While I live I will be happy
With companions of my race;
Though, they say, that all enjoyment
Makes life run with double pace.

While I was a larva eating,—
Always eating,—there did seem
In me indistinct conceptions
Shadowed forth as in a dream—

Feelings that for something better
Than to eat, and grow, and die,
I was made; when turned to pupa
'Twas revealed I soon should fly;

When, at length, in perfect stature
I my flight came to essay,
Ecstasy beyond expression
Filled me—fills me to this day.

Since my race was first created
Legions into life have sprung,
And each year their quiet beauty
O'er these slopes a grace has flung;

Yet has man not learned our secret,
Still he wanders from the truth,
And I trust long will be hidden
All the mysteries of our youth.

But I must not longer tarry,
She I love expects to see
All my tribe rise up together—
Come, my friends, and fly with me.

Coleoptera for Sale.

J. A. BREWER, of Holmesdale House, Reigate, Surrey, begs to announce that, after some years' experience in Entomological Collecting, he has now taken it up as a business, and has to offer the following Insects for sale, which he has taken during a trip to the Isle of Wight, Lymington, Salterns and Weymouth.

| | s. | d. |
|---|----|--------|
| Dromius obseuroguttatus . . . | 0 | 3 each |
| Dyschirius thoraciens . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Pogonus chalcus . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Calathus fuscus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... mollis . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Pterostichus inequalis . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Amara strenua . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Broschus cephalotes . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Harpalus obsoletus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... vernalis . . . | 1 | 0 ... |
| ... neglectus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... anxius . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... serripes . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Stenolophus flavicollis . . . | 1 | 0 ... |
| Lymnæum nigropiceum . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Bembidium laterale . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... scutellare . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... bistriatum . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... ephippium . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... saxatile . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... ustulatum . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... pusillum . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Bledius tricornis . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Hister 4-maculatus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Saprinus sabulosus (a new } British species) . . . } | 1 | 6 ... |
| Ægialia globosa . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Cardiophorus Equiseti . . . | 1 | 6 ... |
| Macrocnema marcidia . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Philan gibbus . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Opatrum subulosum . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Phaleria eadaverina . . . | 0 | 6 ... |

He has also specimens of the following species for sale, collected in other parts of the country :—

| | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------|----|--------|
| Dromius 4-signatus . . . | 1 | 0 each |
| Tarus axillaris . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Badister humeralis . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Licinus Silphoides . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... depressus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Anchomenus oblongus . . . | 0 | 3 ... |
| Pterostichus gracilis . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... erythropus . . . | 0 | 3 ... |

| | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------|----|--------|
| Stenolophus luridus . . . | 0 | 3 each |
| ... exiguus . . . | 0 | 6 ... |
| Bembidium Bruxellense . . . | 0 | 3 ... |

The specimens are all carded, and in good condition.

J. A. B. is also preparing Collections of Geodephaga, which he intends selling at the lowest possible remunerative price, hoping thereby to promote the study of this interesting branch of Entomology, and for which he will be happy to receive applications.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|----|----|
| Collections containing 50 species, a pair of each, mounted on card and named, including box . . . | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Ditto, containing 100 species . . . | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Ditto, containing 150 species . . . | 4 | 10 | 0 |

Now ready, price 25s.,

THE BRITISH TORTRICES.

BY S. J. WILKINSON.

This work forms one 8vo volume, uniform with the series of the 'Insecta Britannica,' and contains descriptions of all the British species of Tortricina, with observations on their habits and localities.

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London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row.

Printed and published by EDWARD NEWMAN, Printer, of No. 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Without, London, in the County of Middlesex.—Saturday, May 14, 1859.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 138.]

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1859

[PRICE 1*d.*



Cloanthes Perspicillaris. (See p. 59.)

CAPTURES.

WE suppose entomologists must have been busy electioneering of late, or at this advanced period of the year our columns ought to be more fully supplied with notices of Captures. We have made every allowance for the East wind, cold nights, &c., but still we think, if due diligence had been used, there should have been more captures recorded. We do not imagine that there can be any mistake on this point, but we make no charge for inserting notices of Captures, or Observations, nor even for *gratuitous* offers of duplicate specimens.

May is now well advanced, and though we know it is often up-hill work looking for insects of note, in that month, during the prevalence of easterly winds, imbued with all the icy bitterness of Siberia, still we think, if the entomologists of this country

were one-tenth as industrious as the much-persecuted ants, we should hear of more captures. Entomologists are by no means decreasing; scarcely a day passes without our hearing from some entomologist of whose existence we were previously unaware, and in the first half of May no less than eight additions have been made to our list of British entomologists. The rising generation thus promises a goodly crop, and we trust their seniors are not prematurely worn out and become *effete*, owing to the excessive abundance of insects during the two preceding seasons.

We do not like to make such personal appeals as the present, but we feel just now that a few series of "Doings in May," giving the real experience of some dozen or two of our readers, would be most acceptable to the remaining two thousand. Nothing incites the young mind so keenly to the pursuit of game as

reading the account of a day's sport, and even grey-headed sportsmen read such things with interest.

Entomologists in out-of-the-way localities might furnish many notices of real service to Science. In the Northern parts of Scotland, — Aberdeen, Banff, &c., — the dates of appearance of spring insects, for several successive seasons, would be of real value, and it would be interesting to contrast such with the dates when the same species may have made their appearance in the Isle of Wight and in Devonshire.

Even a comparison of the East and West Coasts of Scotland would not be uninteresting.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

At Beverley, of John Ward, News Agent, &c., 'Recorder' Office.

At Birmingham, of Robert Burns, 63, Edmond Street.

At Brighton, of John Taylor, News Agent, &c., 86, North Lane.

At Cheltenham, of C. Andrew, 129, High Street.

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At Sheffield, of C. K. Jarvis, News Agent, Post Office, Barker's Pool.

At Worcester, of G. Morgan, Bookseller and News Agent, Little Angel St.

At York, of R. Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

N.B. Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

| | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|
| Under half a column . . . | 0 | 6 |
| Above half a column, but under half a page . . . | 1 | 0 |
| Above half a page, but under a page | 2 | 0 |

Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S.—The tongue-sheath of a *Trochilium* pupa should not be long and free, we believe.

E. H.—May break a lance in defence of the Universities, if he likes; but we anticipate that the two will combine to form a Volunteer Rifle Corps.

CLOANTHA PERSPICILLARIS.

OUR wood-cut this week represents one of our rarest *Noctua*, which is supposed to be on the wing in the month of May. Little is known of its habits, and whether the insect sits sluggishly on palings or flies swiftly in the sunlight are questions which any one can ask, but who can answer? *Conspicillaris*, formerly rare, is gradually becoming common; perhaps *Perspicillaris* may turn up some day. We shall probably recur to this subject next week.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Xylomyges conspicillaris.—Within the last four days I have taken one, and one of my boys has taken another, *X. conspicillaris* on palings.—REV. E. HORTON, Wick, Worcester; May 11.

Saturnia Pavonia-minor.—We have had fine sport on the Moors to-day; I have taken fifty males of *S. Pavonia-minor*, by means of one female, and I have taken twenty females, which have all laid eggs, so that I have plenty of eggs to spare, which I should be glad to send to any entomologist.—JAMES VARLEY, Almondbury Bank, Huddersfield; May 9.

COLEOPTERA.

Doings in the North.—After a winter's session at College, we proposed that on the first appearance of a "tack" of fine weather we should make a short tour—or rather, I should say, an entomological excursion—to Loch Lomond; and, the evening of the 5th looking clear and propitious, we determined to start next morning, which accordingly we did, leaving Glasgow by train at 7.30 A.M.; we arrived at Balloch, at the lower extremity of the Loch, where we embarked in a small steamer. Strangely enough we found on board a friend, a Coleopterist of some note, which greatly enhanced the pleasure of our trip; he had come down that morning for the same purpose as ourselves,—viz., of ascending Ben Lomond and making an attack on the entomological garrison on its heights. After a few minutes' delay we were holding our course on the Queen of Scottish Lakes; the wind had quite calmed down, so much so that the lake was as smooth as a mirror, and the reflection on its bosom of the numerous islets that stud its surface was quite enchanting. The atmosphere, however, was rather thick, so that the lofty Ben, with his council of state, did not become visible till we were within a few miles of him. After passing Balmaha and Luss, we reached, at 10.30, Rowardennan, the point whence excursionists set out when about to climb the heights. Ben Lomond is 3262 feet high, and in ascending there are three shoulders—as they may be termed—to be climbed; the ascent of the first is the most exhausting: we obtained on it, by lifting stones, *Olisthopus rotundatus*, *Quedius frontalis* and *molochinus*; and by examining the dung of sheep we found *Aphodius lapponum*, Gyll., *A. terrestris*, Steph., *A. uliginosus*, Hardy, &c., *Onthophilus striatus*, *Deliphrium tectum*, and several species of *Cercyon*. Under the stones, at the foot of the third and last

shoulder, *Patrobis excavatus* and *P. septentrionis* (the var. with red elytra, tipped with black) were captured, also *Helobia nivalis* and *Omaseus Orinomus*. As we approached the summit, everything had the appearance of the depth of winter, rather than summer; the snow, in some places, was upwards of a foot deep. After reaching the top, we set to work for more than an hour to turn up stones for Coleoptera. The mist was so dense that we could barely see each other, although only a stone-cast away. Every now and then a ptarmigan whizzed past our ears, like a ball discharged from a great gun; there was no time to see whether it was garbed in summer or winter plumage; also the still more awe-inspiring sound of the raven's sonorous croak, as he sat perched on a cliff not far off, as well aware of our presence as we were of his (both parties being invisible to one another), and indignant at such an unwarranted intrusion on his hereditary territory. *H. nivalis* was very abundant; we got four varieties, viz. 1st, altogether black; 2nd, elytra pitchy, legs red; 3rd, elytra brownish red tipped with black, legs red; 4th, ditto, legs black. We also got a specimen of the local *Miscodera arctica*, *Byrrhus pilula* and *fasciatus*, *Simplocaria semistriata*, also *Otiorynchus maurus*, of which the empty bodies of last year's specimens were plentiful. A few of the small alpine *Staphylinidae* also fell to our lot, by shaking moss over a bag-net, and then examining the contents; but the moss was so mixed with snow that our fingers soon became quite benumbed. After about half an hour's descent, we emerged from the mist; indeed if we had ascended the hill for the view alone, we would have been much disappointed, but we had enjoyed that privilege on a former occasion. We only captured two Lepidoptera all day—Tortrices; we had expected to get some male *Saturnia Carpini*, but none were visible. We reached the foot as the

evening shades began to prevail, and next day returned home, having enjoyed ourselves exceedingly.—PICT AND SCOT, Glasgow; May 10.

Carabus nitens.—Sunday being a very fine day, I went to Chat Moss, intending to search for *Carabus nitens*, nor was I disappointed, for when I got to the locality, and began to look for it, I had not been occupied many minutes when my eyes were gladdened with the sight of one—two—three—four at once; with the sun shining upon them they sparkled again. I had now sufficient to do with boxing and bottling *Nitens*, *Fulgens*, *Cupreus* and many others. When I got home I found I was possessed of eighty-one *Nitens* and twelve *Fulgens*. There are too many for myself, so that I have some to spare for less fortunate brother entomologists. — WILLIAM PRESCOTT, 40, Mount Street, Salford; May 9.

EXCHANGE.

Lepidoptera for Exchange.—In duplicate:—1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 23, 25, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40, 51, 54, 55, 60, 61, 64, 65, 66, 71, 73, 74, 78, 85, 87, 110, 129, 139, 145, 146, 147, 148, 158, 163, 166, 173, 177, 179, 184, 189, 208, 260, 262, 273, 307, 309, 326, 343, 369, 370, 374, 410, 412, 413, 416, 426, 427, 444, 485.

Species wanted:—41, 42, 43, 44, 50, 53, 62, 63, 75, 86, 88 to 91, 94, 95, 102, 109, 112, 116, 119, 121, 122, 124, 125, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 149, 150, 151, 152, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 162, 167, 170, 172, 178, 180, 182, 183, 191, 193 to 203, 207, 209 to 212, 215, 218, 221, 225, 226, 228, 229, 235, 236, 242 to 244, 247 to 250, 263, 264, 266, 268, 270, 276, 277, 279, 287, 296, 299, 311, 316, 323, 325, 331, 335, 344, 345, 350, 352, 355, 362, 363, 365, 366, 371, 378, 379, 382, 383, 387 to 389, 391 to 395, 399, 400,

405, 408, 414, 419, 425, 433, 434, 438, 442, 443, 445 to 450, 454, 457, 461, 466 to 468, 471 to 473, 477, 488, 489, 492, 493. Any one having these species to spare (in good condition and well set) will oblige by first writing.—J. SANG, *High Row, Darlington.*

Madeiran Coleoptera.—In Coleoptera I am quite an incipient, but I have sent home the few I can name and the under-mentioned duplicates, as I should like to enter into correspondence with any one who would like to have Madeiran types, of various orders, in return for *well-set* British Rhopalocera, nearly any of which I shall be glad to receive, as most of my own collecting were very much damaged in the voyage, and my moths not being so I want to fill up the gap. The apterous tendency and variation from climatal causes will make even the common insects interesting, I should think. Now is the best time to commence, as I can return boxes by means of friends going home for the summer, thereby saving carriage. I should thank correspondents to mention if unset specimens will do as well as those mounted on card, as, being an invalid, I have many more of the former than of the latter, owing to the time and stooping required. Lastly, can any of the readers of the 'Intelligencer' give me an entomological introduction to anybody at Madeira (or at Lisbon, as I intend making a trip or two occasionally)? If so I shall be very thankful. Letters will be forwarded to me if addressed to my cousin, F. Macdonald, Esq., 36, Harrington Square, Hampstead Road, London.

Argutor robustus,

„ *gracilipes,*

Amara trivialis,

Harpalus distinguendus,

Sphæridium bipustulatum,

Olibrus legendus,

Europs impressicollis,

Anthrenus varius,

Aphodius hydrocharis,

Trox scaber,

Dasytes illustris,

Cionus pnichellus,

Laparocerus morio,

Bruchus rufimanus,

Coccinella mutabilis,

„ *7-punctata,*

Rhyzobius litura,

Cerandra cornuta,

Opatrum fuscum,

Hadrus ciuierascens,

Blaps gages,

„ *fatadica,*

Helops Pluto.

—SOMERLED R. MACDONALD, *Quenla do Jasmeneiro, Funchal, Madeira ; April 26.*

NOTES AND QUERIES ON SOME INSECTS
COLLECTED IN MADEIRA, DURING
JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH,
1859.

Colias Edusa. Abundant.

C. ———? A very curious variety of *Edusa* or else a nondescript. As yet only one, and unfortunately a damaged specimen. I have seen one other in another entomologist's cabinet.

Pieris Brassicæ. Common but not abundant.

Hipparchia ———? A fixed geographical modification of *H. Semele*, according to Mr. Wollaston. I have not seen any Continental specimens, and the variation, in the absence of intermediate grades, is certainly very considerable. I have yet to see the larvæ.

Argynnis Lathonia. Smaller and darker at base of wings than in England, and with a tendency to an increase of silvery markings on under side. Scarce.

Vanessa Callirhoë. Common.

V. Atalanta. Not common.

Chrysophanns Phlæas. Smaller, darker and much more suffused than in England. Common.

Thecla Quercus? Abundant.

These are all of the "Roly-pole-sir" (Rhopalocera), as a farmer once said to me, that I have met. All the Heterocera that I recognise are common ones, but I have a good many that I cannot name at all.

Can any one refer me to any papers, in the 'Transactions' or other scientific journals, on the Lepidoptera of Madeira? A mere list of names will be acceptable.

What moth does a large dirty white larva, feeding in the stems of sugar-cane, come to?—SOMERLED R. MACDONALD, *Quenlo do Jasmeneiro, Funchal, Madeira*; April 26.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

GAMEKEEPERS.

In the "merrie month of May" the entomologist is annually reminded that, however harmless and peaceable he may believe his occupation to be, he is still looked upon by one class of men as worse than a rogue and a vagabond. Gamekeepers have a horror of collectors, and now, when the hearts of others are opened and softened by the genial influences of the season, his whole nature becomes more indurated than usual, and he nerves himself to do battle with every thing that moves through a wood, because it may disturb the game. "I'd rather see any mortal thing than you fly-catchers," said one of these feudal retainers once to me, "'cause you gives us more trouble nor any other kind o' warmint." I attempted to show him that, in the paths of the wood, I could do no more harm than himself; in fact, not so much, as my weapons did not explode. "That's all stuff," said he, "the birds is used to me and a gun; but they're frightened at one o' them ere flappers o' yourn."

He saw things from a different point of view, and I might as well have argued with him on the matter as with a milestone about distance.

Once I remember crossing a field in a wood, and when about half way over the keeper issued from a copse on the other side and advanced to meet me. "Hollo there!" shouted he, before he came near me. I waited till I should be on closer terms, and then he resumed the conversation with, "How did you get in here?" To which I meekly replied, "In the proper way—through the gate." "Then did you not see the notice?" "No." Collectors never do see such things. Well, then, he would tell me that it said "All trespassers would be prosecuted, and all dogs would be shot." Of course I was dreadfully alarmed, not knowing which of the two punishments was to be my fate, nor whether one was worse than the other; but after a little "soft sawder" I was allowed to retreat unhurt.

In another wood, where I had permission to go, I was accosted by the keeper, and he condescended to explain to me that the last year there was very little game, and he had told his master that it was "all along o' them fly-catchers, and there never would be no game as long as he let them come, for he knowed they stole the eggs as well as frightened the birds off their nests."

Now we all know that the impulse with collectors is so strong that they do not, as a rule, hesitate to go wherever their game inhabits, and so they do not wonder that they are treated as trespassers. There is no help for it; if they will go, of course they must pay the penalty. There are, however, some woods where access is free to all, and a few where admission may be had for the asking; and it is the duty of all to take

care that no damage is done by their operations. I have been disgusted with the sight of trees and bushes mutilated by the thrashing they had received from heedless collectors, such damage being entirely unnecessary and indefensible, and provocative, on the part of their owners or their keepers, of retaliatory measures, which often fall, not upon the doers of the mischief, but upon innocent persons. This seasonable note, therefore, to have a care in beating, will, I trust, not be without its effect in restraining the ardour of young entomologists in the use of the beating-stick, and inducing them to keep in the paths in woods, which are far better for beating than in the cover. — J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee*; *May* 12.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus *DEPRESSARIA*.

A larva which must necessarily be very common, but which we have never seen, is that of *D. Ocellana*, which should be found on sallows in July.

The larva of *D. Rotundella* ought not to be difficult to find where that species abounds, as at Folkestone, Deal and the Isle of Wight. Mr. Harding found the larva feeding on the flowers of the Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*).

The larva of *D. Pulcherrimella* should be sought for in the umbels of *Bunium flexuosum*.

The larva of *Douglasella*, which feeds on "one of the *Umbelliferae*" in June, should also be tolerably common in the Isle of Wight.

Of the Continental species of this

genus I should be glad to receive larvæ of

Schmidtella,
Petasitis,
Impurella,
Thapsiella,
Ferulæ, and
Veneficella.

—H. T. STANTON; *May* 12, 1859.

BOTANY.—The season for larvæ is just at hand, and I would therefore strongly recommend all who wish to understand enough of our wild plants to be able to recognise the food-plants of our insects, to possess themselves of Mr. Bentham's recently published 'Handbook of the British Flora' (price 12s. 6d.), as by far the best suited to their purpose. Such a book has long been wanted; not that I would disparage the volume of my old friend Mr. Babington, which was previously the only one at all fitted for entomologists, but it was written, and is chiefly intended for close botanical students, since the excellent author can

"distinguish and divide
A hair 'twixt west and south-west side."

As to Hooker's 'Flora,' in my opinion, it is or at least (for I confess I have not wasted money on the last edition or two) was useless, and *certainly* Mr. Bentham need not have apologized for bringing out his book on its account. The extensive sale which Mr. Bentham alludes to is readily accounted for through its having been made, for many years, his College class-book by the author, and in this way, with all its imperfections, forced on every generation of students. Besides being a useful "Flora," Mr. Bentham's volume contains an excellent introduction, with every explanation of botanical terms, &c., necessary for study, and an immense mass of most useful and readable information relative to the geographical distribution

of our plants. Now that this subject, as regards insects, is becoming daily better understood and more fully appreciated, all "of the net and pin" will find in every page matter bearing on the point which they would otherwise have to ransack a whole library in search of. In short, I consider the work, which contains more than 650 pages of very close printing, beautifully printed and got up by Reeve, not only cheap but indispensable to every entomologist who wishes to know the natural history of the objects of his study.—G. WAILES, *Newcastle-on-Tyne*.

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London: John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster Row.

"A TWICE-TOLD TALE."—The 'Zoologist' is the "heavy coach" of Entomology, starting only once a month, and as this month's number holds out the prospect of its readers and buyers having the benefit of information already known to most of us who profess to travel by the 'Intelligencer,' be so good as inform the Rev. J. Greene, who writes, "As I do not wish to anticipate my friend Mr. Crewe, I withhold any description of the larva" of *Eupithecia assimolata*, as well as his friend, that this same larva, besides being noticed in the 'Manual,' was described by M. Guenée, in his 'Phalenites,' and figured by him (plate 2, fig. 9) from an original drawing now before me, not to mention Mr. Logan's account of it in the first volume of the 'Intelligencer.' By so doing you will probably save the valuable space of the 'Zoologist' and oblige

A FAST MAN.

Price 3s.,

PRACTICAL HINTS respecting MOTHS and BUTTERFLIES, with Notices of their Localities; forming a Calendar of Entomological Operations throughout the Year in pursuit of Lepidoptera. By RICHARD SHIELD.

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WANTED, cheap SECOND-HAND COPIES of the following:—

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 139.]

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

SALINE.

MUCH has been done of late years in exploring the entomological productions of our coast, but yet much—very much—remains to be done. We speak not so much in reference to the Coleoptera of the coast, for they seem to have met latterly with a due share of attention, but we have mainly in view the Micro-Lepidoptera, both Tortrices and Tineæ. The Flora of the salt marshes is so peculiar that it cannot be but the insects feeding on those plants will be mostly different from those met with elsewhere.

But for the continuance of the East wind, and a severe cold, which incapacitated us from much activity in the open air, we should ere now have made a descent upon the coast of Sussex; but though we have been prevented from carrying out our intentions, it is no reason why the summer of 1859 should be allowed to pass without a more searching investigation of our salt marshes than they have hitherto experienced.

The lovely *Gelechia littorella* is alone a sufficient attraction to induce a man to carry his carpet-bag the whole length of the pier at Ryde; and many who

visit the Isle of Wight in the hopes of getting that insect will, if disappointed, be almost sure to fall in with something else of interest.

The coasts of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk are all likely to reward the diligent investigator; and those who try the last-named county are reminded that the beach at Yarmouth once produced *Cloantha perspicillaris*. This insect, it is scarcely necessary to remark, is very rare in this country; but perhaps, after the unusual heat of last summer, we must expect an undue development of insect-life, and probably *Cloantha perspicillaris*, which emerges from the pupa state in May, may now be waiting in ambush to reward those who seek. We gave a figure of the insect last week, and its appearance is so striking that we fancy any one who meets with it will immediately recognise it.

Another insect peculiar to Yarmouth is *Crambus Petriolellus*, but the season for that has not yet arrived; it should be looked for at the end of July and beginning of August.

The South Essex Coast should be ransacked for the case-making Geometric larva of *Smaragdaria*; the larva is not rare, if you once know how to find it, and the perfect insect, which

is very fine when bred, is a *desideratum* in most of our collections.

The larva of *Agdistes Bennettii* will induce many to search closely *Statice Limonium*. Are there no other rarities or novelties to be obtained by a careful scrutiny of that plant?

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Huekett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

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N.B. Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

| | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|
| Under half a column . . . | 0 | 6 |
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Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

MR. STAINTON will not be "at home" on Wednesday next, June 1.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. E. F.—There is no such list in existence.

I. P. T.—Lepidoptera are stated to be very scarce in New Zealand. The known species have not been described in any one work, but in several. The readiest way to name specimens would be by comparison with those in the British Museum.

E. H.—The larvæ of both *Antispila Pfeifferella* and *A. Treitschkiella* feed in leaves of the dog-wood. The greatest difference in the perfect insects is in the size, the latter species being little more than half the size of the former. See 'Insecta Britannica,' Tineina, p. 250.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Vanessa Antiopa.—On the 9th instant, one of my little brothers captured a specimen of *V. Antiopa*, near the third milestone from York on the North road. The insect is in fair condition, but plainly shows that it has hybernated.—C. J. HAYDEN, *Skelton, near York*; May 13.

Clostera Curtula.—On the 17th inst. I took a fine male specimen of this insect, just emerged from the pupa, off a fence under some poplars near here.—ALBERT H. JONES, 11, *Victoria Road, Old Charlton*; May 20.

Cucullia Chamomillæ.—In last week's 'Intelligencer' I saw a remark from *Cucullia Chamomillæ*, deploring its want of attraction for the eyes of the Lepidopterist. However, if it will be any satisfaction to this species of Shark, I can say that individuals thereof have been commoner than usual in this neighbourhood, a good share having fallen to the members of the Preston Natural History Society.—H. ROBINSON, 3, *Deepdale Road, Preston*; May 18.

Captures at Darenth.—Since my last communication insect-life has much increased in the Wood. Tortrices and Tineina, with Coleoptera, Hymenoptera and Diptera make plenty of work for the entomologist. I have taken one more *Notodonta trepida*, also a fine specimen of *Xylomyges conspicillaris* and of *Boarmia consortaria*. *Trochilium Culiciforme* is now coming out, with a host of common things not worth recording. I expect to be able to send you the larva of *D. Alstræmeriana* in *Conium maculatum*, and anything connected with its history, if you wish it. [By all means].—H. J. HARDING, *Darenth Wood, Kent*; May 16.

COLEOPTERA.

A Visit to Dinarda Maërkeli.—Four old collectors agreed lately to have a field

day with the *Dinardæ* near Guildford, and found they were lodging as usual with their old friends *Formica rufa*. It could not be called a nest that the ants had made, though eventually that kind of domicile may be established there, but a division of the main army had taken possession of the ground under a large overhanging log, and were busy in surveying and planning the citadel they intended to erect; some sappers and miners had even began to throw up earth-works, but as yet there were neither nests nor eggs. The intrepid British stormed this Redan, literally shoulder to shoulder; the besieged replied to the assault with energy, swarming up the persons of the besiegers, biting everywhere, ejecting streams of caustic acid in every direction, and provoking ejaculations on the part of the assailants. Nothing daunted, the strangers put their hands resolutely to the work, and soon captured a *Dinarda*. This primary success stimulated their endeavours, the retreat of others was cut off, and eventually the attacking force retired, bearing away with them more than fifty *Dinardas*, and also a whole host of less important personages as prisoners. Enraged beyond measure were the ants, and some of them stuck so closely to their assailants that they were carried off, unknowingly to both parties; one of the besiegers found more than fifty in his boots when he arrived at Guildford. Involuntary starts and exclamations were made by the several members of the party, and these were caused by the pertinacious attacks of some inhabitants of the Formicarium that had devoted themselves to explorations of the epidermis of their visitors, and having in their fury become unconscious travellers, and lacking the "better part of valour," ceased not to bite when far removed from their home. Even into the railway-carriage they came; some even went further than that, and I can answer for the truth of the proverb, that

"Misfortune makes one acquainted with strange bedfellows." The possession of *Dinarda*, however, was a salve for all the wounds. If the red-coated prisoners belonged to the Commissariat department, I fear they will be sadly missed, and, being valuable beyond all price, they are not likely to be ransomed. If they merely went as camp-followers to see what they could pick up, then who will pity their fate in having partaken of the fortune of war?—J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee*; May 17.

OBSERVATIONS.

Notes on Eupithecia. — This genus should now be worked assiduously by students.

E. Indigaria, one of the most secretly kept species, is now out in mixed pine and larch woods, and may be found on the tree-boles, sitting somewhat triangularly. The specimens so found, in consequence of being so well marked, will be difficult to name by those who never saw the species alive. The insect is generally known as a dull, long, pointed-winged species, with a distinct dark central spot, whereas good specimens are marked almost as well as *E. constrictaria*, but are never so green as that species is when fresh out. *Indigaria* is not scarce on tree-boles in the Kennell Wood, Delamere Forest, now. Eggs large, white, oval. Larva unknown to me.

E. constrictaria may be taken freely on the wing, from 9 to 12 at night, with a lantern, at Llanferris. Sit still, and cast the light down a slope on the mountain side until one is seen crossing the light. A few may be found sitting spread out on the rocks during the day. Larva unknown to me.

E. assimilaria is now flying round black-currant bushes in gardens at dusk, depositing its eggs. The larvæ are met with freely in August and September, by

picking the leaves with holes eaten in them, particularly if in the centre of the bush, and by looking on the under side. Eggs light greenish white. Larva long, cylindrical, very slender; whitish green, afterwards pinkish drab, with darker lozenge-shaped markings on the back. Sometimes the larvæ assume the pupa state without changing from the first to the darker colour.

E. Irriguaria should also now be looked well after in open places in or near oak woods, in Wales and all along the coast from Conway to Kent.

Those who have never seen the pretty pink larvæ of *E. rectangularia* would do well to have an eye to the apple trees; if not good larvæ-hunters take a chair under an apple tree when the perfect insect is out, and sitting down upon it look up at the under side of the branches, where the perfect insects will be found sitting. Select females for breeding, and feed the larvæ upon apple-leaves.

E. innotaria will claim our attention very soon. This species has been frequently taken inland in old lanes, but has been more frequently met with on the coast. Its larva is unknown to me.

I have before me the pretty little *Eupithecia tenuiaria*, bred to-day from its peculiar larva collected in March in sallow-catkins, on which it feeds until the leaves only remain for it. Those who do not breed must stand under a large sallow bush when quite dark, and looking up, strike at this species as it flies round the bush depositing its eggs on the tips of the twigs.—C. S. GREGSON, *Stanley, near Liverpool*; May 17.

Observations on Belgian Tineina.—The latitude of Brussels is the same as that of Hastings, and the distance between Belgium and the Kentish coast is so slight that one is disposed to expect that the *Micros* which occur here should also be met with in England. My attention has been called to the following species, which are not rare here, though as yet

unknown to the British Fauna:—*Ypsolophus ustulellus*, *Harpella majorella* (of habits similar to our *Geoffrella*), *Æcophora procerella* (which has occurred at rest on alder leaves), *Gelechia segetella*, *Acrolepia assectella* (the leek and onion-feeding species), and *A. cariosella*. It was also with no little interest that I heard from M. Fologne he had once met with a swarm of *Ochsenheimeria Vacculella* on the window of a house. Hitherto the species had only occurred singly in such situations, so that the fact of a whole colony having been found in-doors is very interesting. The study of the smaller genera *Nepticula*, *Lithocolletis*, &c., is being pushed here to a considerable extent. — H. T. STAINTON, *Brussels*; May 19.

Recipe for obtaining Specimens of Wasps' Nests in various Stages of Formation.—Choose a bank, the drier the better, in a locality known to be frequented by those insects, in which form a number of chambers a few yards apart. These chambers should be oven-like excavations, some five or six inches in diameter. Having formed a chamber, insert a small wooden peg in the centre of the roof, to which the nest will be attached. Close up the mouth of the excavation with clay, leaving only an aperture sufficient for the entrance of the insect for whose use it has been prepared. Stick around the orifice bits of moss, grass, &c., so as to make the spot harmonize in appearance with the other portions of the bank, lest it prove too conspicuous an object, and so attract other eyes than those it was intended should be drawn to it. The best tool for forming the excavations is a thin and moderately broad carpenter's chisel. Of course the chances of success will be increased in proportion to the number of chambers formed, and also in proportion to the number of localities chosen. They should be ready for occupation before the end of April, but the present date, and perhaps a fortnight to come, will be found

not to be too late. Having prepared as many chambers as may be found convenient, and the season having arrived for the insects to commence their labours, let an inspection of the various excavations be at once proceeded with. By removing the "stopper" from the mouth of No. 1, you will be enabled to see at a glance whether a nest has been begun, and if such should prove to be the case, and you decide on securing it for a specimen, carefully loosen with your knife the peg to which it adheres, and having withdrawn it insert another peg in its place, replace the "stopper," and then go on to No. 2. If you find a nest here in about as advanced a state as that in No. 1, replace the plug and let it remain till sufficient additions have been made to the nest to serve for your second specimen. By adopting the same plan with reference to the remaining excavations, allowing each nest to remain till it has reached the exact point required, you will be enabled to obtain a series of nests ranging from the very commencement of the work to the completion of the structure. Before young wasps are produced care should be taken not too often to disturb the old one, who up to that period is the sole architect, if you desire the work to be continued: you should therefore wait a few minutes near the entrance to the nest, and watch her away before venturing upon an examination, which you may then do with safety, having full time to make the examination and reclose the entrance before her return. When the colony begins to increase and become strong you will find it convenient to make the inspection after nightfall, and to introduce within the aperture a few drops of chloroform before attempting to secure the nest. Beside the chances of obtaining specimens which the adoption of the plan I have recommended reduces to a certainty, there are other advantages to be derived from it which, with the Editor's permission, I will point out in a future

number. I have, at this date, prepared between forty and fifty excavations, which are rapidly becoming tenanted.—S. STONE, *Brighthampton*; May 14.

EXCHANGE.

Larvæ of Porthesia Chrysorrhæa.—I shall be most happy to supply any person with the larvæ of *P. Chrysorrhæa*, providing they send box with return postage. The species is very abundant in this neighbourhood.—WILLIAM HARGREAVES, 9, *John Street, Gravesend*; May 19.

Exchange.—I have got eggs of *Smerinthus Populi* and *Cerura vinula*, which I shall be glad to exchange for any local species.—J. B. WHITE, *Box 34, Wakefield*.

Exchange.—I have the following duplicates:—

Melitæa Cinxia (larva and pupæ).

Sphinx Ligustri (one pupa).

Orgyia Antiqua (eggs and larva).

S. Fabriciana (larvæ and pupæ).

Tortricina larvæ in rose-shoots.

For *M. Cinxia* I should be glad to receive larva or pupæ of *Thecla Quercus* or *Betulæ*, *Aporia Crategi* or *Hypogymna Dispar*; for my pupa of *S. Ligustri* I should be glad of one of *Smerinthus Tiliæ* or of *Chærocampa Porcellus*. I will send the others on receipt of box with return postage, or of box with larvæ of *Odonestis potatoria* or *Gastropacha Quercifolia*.—W. A. LEWIS, *Springhill House, Southampton*; May 16.

ENTOMOLOGICAL PUZZLE.

IN January last, while in Surrey, I noticed a fine Norway spruce, that had apparently been blown down by the wind; the bole was snapped asunder

about three feet from the ground. On a closer inspection, however, the wood at the place of the fracture was found mined in all directions by some wood-boring larvæ, probably a *Sirex*; thus the primary cause of the fall of the tree was evident. But each of the bores contained one or two flies; these were, it seems, *Sarcophaga carnaria*, *Musca vomitaria*, *Musca meridiana* and *Sargus cupreus*: these flies were closely imbedded in the detritus of the wood. There were some hundreds so imbedded. Now the question arises, How did these flies become tenants of the bores? It is preposterous to suppose that they were "drawn into the bores by a spider, to be preyed on at leisure!" Why, when the juices were extracted, were the flies not ejected, as is usual under similar circumstances? Yet, strange to say, one of our leading entomologists favours such an idea, but of what genus and species the spider is, of course he cannot say! And so he leaves the matter.

I am induced to ask you to insert these particulars in the pages of your serial, in the hope of eliciting a more satisfactory explanation. The bores were isolated, and apparently unconnected with one another, and in some instances they seemed to have no connection with the outer air.—PETER ISCHBALD, *Storthes Hall, Huddersfield*; May 17.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The British Tortrices. By S. J. WILKINSON. London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row. Price 25s.

(Continued from p. 55.)

As a sample of a book always enables a reader to form a better opinion of its

merits than any criticism, we proceed to give some extracts showing how Mr. Wilkinson has treated that perplexing genus *Dicrorampha*.

"This is a very extensive genus, and hitherto a most difficult one to arrange, arising from several of the species previously located in it being so very similar to each other as to render their discrimination almost impossible; but which (*Senectana* and *Saturnana*), according to the present classification, belong to another family, and are consequently removed, leaving this group much more congruous and natural. The species as now recognised may always be known by a tooth-shaped dorsal blotch, of varied size and colour (usually yellow), sometimes very distinct, at others scarcely visible. The perfect insects fly about in the sunshine, and some of them are of common occurrence. In the larva state they present several points of affinity to the *Halonotæ*; probably the whole of them live in the roots of herbaceous plants.

"The British species are nine in number (several more are recognised on the Continent), and are arranged as in the following table:—

- A. Anterior wings with a pale sulphur-coloured, *curved tooth-shaped blotch* on the dorsal margin. . Species 1.
- B. Anterior wings with a pale sulphur-coloured, *triangular blotch* on the dorsal margin. . . . Species 2.
- C. Anterior wings with a *rich yellow* (sometimes dusky) *tooth-shaped blotch* on the inner margin. . Species 3, 4.
- D. Anterior wings with an *indistinct triangular or curved tooth-shaped blotch* on the dorsal margin, slightly *paler than the rest of the wing*, *never yellow or sulphur-coloured*. . . . Species 5—9."

Then follows a description of *D. Petiverella*, after which we read—

"An abundant species; variable in size, and a little so in colour. Allied to *D. sequana*, but is larger, and the *pale dorsal blotch is more crescent-shaped and narrower*.

"The imago appears in June and July, flying in the sunshine wherever the food-plant of the larva grows. It is generally distributed over the country, and occurs also in Scotland and Ireland.

"The larva is from four to five lines long, of sluggish habit and of a pinkish white colour. The head is luteous, shining, and the sutures chestnut-brown. The shield broad, shining, very transparent, with several small blackish clouds thereon. The anal segment slightly constricted. It is to be found in the roots of the yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) during the autumn, living therein in the larva state till the following April, and is exceedingly abundant."

Then follows a description of the next species, *Sequana*, after which we read—

"An uncommon species, tolerably constant in size and colour. Allied to *D. Petiverella*, but smaller and having the *dorsal blotch shorter, wider, with its apex truncate*. The anterior wings are also broader.

"The imago appears in June, flying at midday in grassy places. It occurs in Norfolk, Gloucestershire, Devonshire, near Croydon and other places in the Metropolitan district."

After the description of *Politana*, we read—

"A rather common species; constant in size, but somewhat variable in colour. Of the size of *D. Petiverella*, but with the *anterior wings narrower*.

"The imago appears in June in grassy places, occasionally in company with *D. Petiverella*. It occurs throughout the metropolitan district, in Yorkshire, Cheshire, &c."

At the conclusion of the description of the next species, *Alpinana* (p. 106), no observations are appended; this must surely be an oversight, as we are not told whether the insect is common or scarce, when it occurs, nor where it is to be met with. According to our own experience, the insect used to occur at Charlton Sand-pit, frequenting tansy, at the end of July and beginning of August; but probably Mr. Wilkinson has something more to say upon the subject.

After the description of the following species, *Simpliciana*, one of the obscurer section of the genus, we read—

"Not a common species; tolerably constant in size and colour. This is one of a group of insects which are exceedingly difficult to make out. It is allied to *D. Tanaceti*, *Saturnana* and *Plumbagana*. From *Tanaceti* it may be distinguished by the costa not being so distinctly marked, and the *entire absence of slightly lusted streaks and markings on the disk*; from *Saturnana* by its *somewhat smaller size, paler colour and obvious, though obscure, blotch on the dorsal margin, and the absence of metallic marks*; and from *Plumbagana* by the *same characters as from Saturnana*.

"The imago appears in June and July among mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), and occurs wherever that plant grows in plenty. It has been captured at Charlton, Greenhithe, Northfleet and Margate, near Dover, in Kent, near Croydon and other places round London; also in Worcestershire, Cheshire, &c.

"The pupa measures 4 lines in length and is of a pale testaceous-brown.

"The larva feeds in the roots of *Artemisia vulgaris*, living therein throughout the winter, and assumes the pupa state about the month of April. It is of a yellowish white colour, with a hazel-coloured head."

We have not space at present to give any further extracts on the group, but may perhaps recur to the subject on a future occasion.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 140.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

AT HOME.

A SHORT time ago we received a letter, in which we read as follows:—

“Having but recently commenced the study of Entomology, and only lately purchased the five completed volumes of the ‘Intelligencer’ and commenced taking in the numbers of the present volume, I am anxious for some information respecting your excursions and “at home,” so frequently announced. I am sure, therefore, you will excuse my troubling you with this letter, and will kindly explain to me the nature of your excursions, and what is meant by your being “at home:” of course I know what “at home” means in its usual sense, but what are entomologists to understand by your announcement.”

Now when we receive such a letter as this we are always disposed to look upon the writer, not as a single individual, but as the type of a class; the questions which one gentleman has here put, others probably have thought of putting, but have not done so. For the satisfaction, therefore, of all others who have felt disposed to ask similar questions, we reply publicly.

It is now nearly fourteen years ago since we were calling one evening at the house of an entomological friend, and we happened to ask him the names

of some two or three moths, which he was not prepared to give with certainty off-hand, and he proposed that, as it was *Wednesday evening*, and Mr. Stephens was “at home” on Wednesday, we should consult him on the knotty points. Mr. Stephens had then for many years devoted his Wednesday evenings to the service of entomologists. Any one, incipient or professor, who wished to obtain information on any branch of Entomology, or to see Mr. Stephens’ valuable and interesting collection, had only to call at Eltham Cottage some Wednesday evening, without any previous appointment or intimation that he was coming, and there he would be sure to find Mr. Stephens, with imperturbable good humour, happy to place his collections and books at the service of the stranger, and also to assist him personally in his investigations.

What pleasant *réunions* those were! Many a time, ten years ago, did we incite half a dozen Micro-Lepidopterists to drop in simultaneously some Wednesday evening, and two or three hours sped rapidly away whilst we were poring over books and drawers. Alas! those days are gone, never to return! In 1852 Mr. Stephens died; his collections went to the British Museum, and his library came to Mountsfield.

We had commenced a series of "at homes" on Thursdays, during the winter months, in the life-time of Mr. Stephens, who was himself our most frequent visitor; and though entomologists were scarce in those days, they seemed more drawn together and fonder of meeting than now that their name is legion.

On the removal of Mr. Stephens' library to its new quarters, we published a Catalogue of it (which may yet be had *gratis*), and announced that it might be consulted every Wednesday evening as heretofore. In the first season after this announcement we had many visitors, but very few *who consulted the library*: the numbers of visitors soon dropped off, and it frequently happened that no visitor, or perhaps only one, came on a Wednesday evening. Occasionally it would happen that of the four Wednesdays in a month a single visitor would come on each Wednesday—visitors who would have liked to have met one another.

It then occurred to us that if we diminished the frequency of our "at homes" we should ensure a better supply of visitors, and it would be a relief to every one; incipients were often frightened when they found they were in for a *tête-à-tête* of three hours. We accordingly promulgated a new regulation, that we would be "at home" the first Wednesday in each month, and to this, unless something specially occurs to prevent, we still endeavour to adhere. Last Wednesday, for instance, we were

sailing down the Rhine, but next Wednesday we hope to be "at home."

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of
W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to
MR. H. T. STAINTON, *Mountsfield,*
Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice
will be taken of anonymous communications.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

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| a page | 2 0 |

Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. H. and J. B.—The figures refer to the numbers prefixed to the species in the Appendix to the 'Manual.'

H. J. T. H.—We cannot notice your capture until you are certain of the species. Consult Wood's 'Index,' or the collections in the British Museum, and let us know the result.

T. B.—Stephens' 'Manual of British Beetles' is the only English work that will assist you; but it is very imperfect.

R. M., FIMBER.—The insect sent is the common *Thanaos Tages*.

P. W. C.—The cases are probably those of a *Psyche*. We do not know that any part in your district is better than another. Entomologists resident in a place find out such matters.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Ennychia octomaculalis and *Nephopteryx Abietellu*.—I wish to record the occurrence of the above insects in Skye; they were taken there last season by Mr. James Wingate, of Hamilton. *N. Abietella* has been taken in this neighbourhood, but I believe that *E. octomaculalis* has not been found in Scotland before. Mr. W. also found *Melanippe hastata* very plentifully in Skye.—T. CHAPMAN, Glasgow; May 20.

Captures at Maltby.—On the 21st instant, in company with Mr. W. Hicks, I paid a visit to the above-named spot, and beat for larvæ; the result was as follows:—

Thecla W-album (rare),
Xanthia citrigo,
 „ *gilvago* (very rare),
Cosmia diffinis,
 „ *affinis*, &c.

—JAMES BATTY, 133, South St., Park, Sheffield; May 23.

[The other captures are not deserving of a special notice.]

Lepidoptera in Dumbartonshire.—On the 19th inst. my son and I made an excursion to the Gareloch. We found the vegetation less advanced than at the same period last year; *Pteris aquilina* only just breaking through the surface of the ground in exposed places. Between Garelochhead and the shore of Loch Long we found the under-mentioned insects on the wing. We also brought home eleven larvæ of *Geometra Papilionaria*, taken off the small birches—i. e. small specimens of *Betula alba*, not *B. nana*.

Pieris Napi,
Thecla Rubi,
Fidonia atomaria,
Melanippe hastata,
Coremia ferrugata,
Eupithecia pumilata,
 „ *Satyrata*,
Antithesia prælongana,
 „ *dimidiana*,
Sericoris politana,
Anchylopera nunguicella,
Grapholitha Ulicetana, &c.

I have bred this month in the house *A. prælongana* and *dimidiana*, from larvæ collected last September, on the Argyle side of Loch Long; the former lives on birch, and is a bright green, while the larva of the latter lives in the terminal shoots of *Myrica Gale*, several leaves of which it draws together, and is rather stout, of a blackish colour, like pale Indian ink.—T. CHAPMAN, Glasgow; May 21.

Captures at Darent Wood.—During a three days' visit (May 21—23) to this locality I have made the following captures:—

Thecla Rubi,
Nemeobius Lucina,
Trochilium Cynipiformis,
 „ *Culiciformis*,
Sesia fuciformis,
Lithosia aureola,
Phragmatobia mendica.

By sugar, first night:—

Acronycta Rnmicis,
Gonoptera Libatrix,
Hadena Thalassina,
 „ *Contigua*,
Euplexia Lucipara, &c.

Eleven species in all; so that those fond of the sport can now indulge in it to their hearts' content. *Cucullia Verbasei* was just out. I have also taken the following *Geometra* and *Tortrices*, as well as many other species:—

Macaria notataria,
Hemerophila abruptaria,
Harpalyce ruptaria,

Phibalapteryx vitalbaria,
Bapta taminaria,
Ephyra pendularia,
Minoa Euphorbiaria,
Halias prasinana, 4
Tortrix ministrana,
Capua oebraeana,
Phoxopteryx uncaana,
 „ *diminutana*,
Stigmonota puncticostana,
Pyrodes Rheediella.

—H. J. HARDING, 1, *York St., Church Street, Shoreditch.*

COLEOPTERA.

Beetles near Gloucester.—On the 11th of May the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club met at Cheltenham, when the entomological section, under the guidance of the Rev. Mr. Marshall, had the satisfaction of taking six specimens of *Platyrhinus latirostris*, under the bark of decayed ash pollards, or feeding on the *Sphaeria concentrica*, Berkeley (*S. fraxinea*, Sow.), with which their trunks were embossed. These insects were first detected in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham by Messrs. Marshall and Prentice, and the same trees have never since failed to yield a supply in due season. Mr. Marshall has even taken an individual on the wing in the streets of Cheltenham, where the spectacle of an ærostatie pig would have been, if possible, less surprising. On the 13th I took a fine series of *Chrysomela distinguenda*, on the shady side of a damp quarry in the "Great Oolite" between Northleach and Burford. This is the first time I have had the good fortune to meet with this insect in Gloucestershire. Besides these I select the following catalogue of rather "good things" from a long list of captures:—

Stomis puniceatus,
Carabus monilis,
Harpalus sabulicola,
Tomicus villosus,
Cerylon pilicorne,

Helodes phellandrii,
Polydrosus undatus,
Notaris acridulus,
 „ *bimaculatus*,
Eirrhinus sehirsosus,
Tanysphyrus lemnae,
Merionius obscurus,
Otiorhynchus piceus,
 „ *niger*,
Rhynchites paucillius,
Anthonomus ater,
 „ *pomorum*,
Balaninus villosus,
Tanymecus palliatus,
Seiophilus muricatus (3),
Synaptus filiformis (1),
Elater ustulatus (1),
Clytus mysticus, &c.

The hawthorn blossoms have been unusually unproductive this season; I know not whether others have found them so; and, on the whole, this spring has been less favourable to the entomologists in these parts than usual: whether this is attributable to the long duration of easterly winds I am not sufficiently skilled in knowledge of the influence of weather upon insect development to decide.—W. V. GUISE, *Elmore Court*; May 26.

Captures at Darent.—I have taken the following amongst a number of other species, during my recent visit to the above locality:—

Argilus biguttatus,
 „ *viridis*,
Elater balteatus,
Campylus lineatus,
Telephori (various),
Molytes coronatus,
Rhynchites pubescens,
 „ *Betuli*,
 „ *Populi*,
Attelabus Curculionides,
Apoderus Avellanae,
Clytus mysticus,
 „ *Arietis*,
Rhagium inquisitor,
 „ *bifasciatus*,
Toxotus meridianus,

Cryptocephalus 6-punctatus,

„ *flavilabris*.

—H. J. HARDING, 1, York St., Church Street, Shoreditch.

OBSERVATIONS.

Two Winters in Pupa.—The following species have appeared perfect this spring, after having remained two winters in the pupa state:—

Notodonta Camelina,

„ *Dromedarius*,

Saturnia Pavonia-minor,

Cymatophora flavicornis.

It is probably the habit of the last species to remain two winters as pupæ, as no larvæ that I have had came out the first spring. — T. CHAPMAN, *Glasgow*; May 21.

A new Gelechia, proposed to be called G. Freyji.—From the *Centaurea* miner obtained last year, as stated in the 'Intelligencer,' I have just reared a little dark brown *Gelechia*, and which I propose naming as above, after the discoverer of the larva. I have not yet had time to describe it, but intend doing so shortly. — JOHN SCOTT, *Southfield Villas, Middlesborough*; May 24.

Larva and Food-plant of Gelechia marmorea.—A curious story is told of the way in which hedgehogs used to become possessed of the fallen apples in orchards, by rolling themselves over on their backs, so that the quills entered them, and the animals thus walked off in apple-pie order. After a somewhat similar fashion a friend was advised to roll himself in the sand of the sand-hills, and then examine his clothes for the little sand cocoons he might find attached. But perhaps as easy a way is to lie down and examine carefully at the roots of the chickweed. He will then find there are little tubes made just below the surface, and by tracing them to the end will per-

ceive that the larva just emerges under some of the leaves trailing on the ground, and then eats its fill and retires to some other leaf. The larva is stoutish, of a pale dirty yellow colour, with three brownish pink lines down the back. Each segment, except the anal one, has three black spots on each side of the dorsal line, placed one anteriorly and two posteriorly, thus forming a triangle. The anal segment has simply a ring of spots; head pitchy; corselet brown. In one or two cases I have observed the head of the larva to be also brown; but this may arise from a difference of age. They are exceedingly abundant, and the little cocoons, by passing the sand through a piece of coarse muslin, may be picked up in any quantity.—IBID.

Supposed Larva of Gelechia pictella.—At the roots of the same chickweed on which *Marmorea* feeds I have discovered another little larva constructing a tube just under the surface of the ground. It is more slender than the larva of *Marmorea*, and is slightly hairy; head brown; body beneath yellow; on the back pinkish yellow. On the place where I found it I am in the habit of taking *Pictella* every year, and I am therefore half inclined to conclude that it is the larva of this species. In searching for it I turned up a very great many of the larva of one of the Noctuæ, perhaps an *Agrotis*; whether it feeds on the chickweed or the *Galium*, which is very abundant, I cannot say.—IBID; May 25.

WASPS' NESTS.

In a previous number of the 'Intelligencer' I communicated a method by which a regular series of the nests of wasps might readily and with certainty be obtained. The advantages of this plan are obvious, when we consider that under ordinary circumstances it is by the merest accident we stumble upon a nest at its commencement. The chances are we fail to meet with one till it has

attained a considerable size, when the number of workers has increased to such an extent, as by their constantly passing to and fro to betray its situation. Now, by adopting the plan I have recommended, you may not only, as stated in my last communication, make sure of obtaining specimens in every stage of formation, but you may be sure of obtaining them uninjured. You have not to begin a dig in the dark, uncertain how near to or how far from the entrance the nest may be situate, in which case it would be ten to one but by an unlucky dig you demolished it entirely, or so far impaired its beauty as to render it unfit for a specimen; you have only to remove the clay which blocks up the entrance to the chamber you have formed, and the nest is immediately before your eyes; and it can withal be so readily and so easily withdrawn that you must be clumsy indeed if you fail in securing it without its having sustained the slightest injury. But, beside the certainty of obtaining specimens, than which but few objects in nature are more exquisitely beautiful, opportunities are hereby afforded you of observing by daily inspection the progress of the work from its commencement; and when the number of workers has so far increased as to render an inspection of the nest in its original situation no longer agreeable or safe, you have only to treat them, after dusk in the evening, to a moderate dose of chloroform, and then, before they have time to recover from the stupor into which they have been thrown, transfer the nest with its inmates, scraping up those which may have fallen from it, to your own house, having previously provided yourself with a roomy glazed box, some eighteen inches or two feet square. In this box let the nest be suspended; but take care so to contrive it that it shall nearly, but not quite, touch the bottom of the box, and that it can be gradually raised as the work progresses. By placing the wasps which fell from the

nest immediately underneath it, they will, when consciousness returns, ascend into it; and in the morning, unless you gave them too strong a dose over night, you will find them prepared for work. By way of encouragement, let them be supplied with sugar moistened with beer or water. Place the box near the window of any convenient room. Let there be a tunnel or covered way from an aperture in the box to one in the window, so as to allow of ingress and egress without permitting them to have the range of the room, which would be attended with inconvenience to the members of the household, and the work of the nest will then be carried on directly under your eye. In order that you may be enabled to see what is going on inside as well as outside the nest it will be necessary for you to chip away with a pair of scissors the shell or covering, so as to expose the combs completely; this should be done as soon as the nest has been completely fixed, and before the insects recover from their lethargic state. The whole process of cell-construction, egg-depositing, larvæ-feeding, &c., will then be revealed to you. The covering will be renewed in the course of a few days, when, if you wish to make further observations with reference to the interior, the scissors must be again applied, first administering another dose of chloroform.

Having access to an unoccupied house, I have during the last four years transplanted upwards of twenty colonies and established them in the different rooms; and by operating upon the nests in the manner above recommended, I have been enabled to observe many extraordinary traits in the character of these insects, and to make myself acquainted with their habits, manner of building, &c., which I could not by any other means have done.

S. STONE.

(To be continued.)

EXCHANGE.

Hypogymna Dispar.—Having a number of the larvæ of this insect to dispose of, any persons wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity of possessing this species may have it by writing first and stating what they can give in exchange, either in ova, larvæ or imago; and, to disappoint Young Barnes, no letters will be attended to that come to hand before Wednesday, the 8th of June. Those who do not receive answers within fourteen days will understand they are not accepted.—F. BRADLEY, *Thompson's Square, Portobello Street, Sheffield; May 30.*

KNOTTY POINTS.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I am very glad to see that you have yourself settled, in a very masterly way, a knotty point of great importance. There has, for some time past, been a continual and increasing demand for a railroad to the Temple of Science; every scholar is ambitious of mounting a pedestal at once in that splendid structure, without having to toil uphill, with great labour and perseverance, and thus endeavour to prove himself worthy of such a position. You, sir, have hit the nail in the right place when you say, "many persons labour under the delusion that everything should be so plainly written that its meaning should be apparent *without the slightest study*; nine times out of ten, if an author is not understood the fault *lies with the reader*." Capital! Young gentlemen, learn by heart the whole paragraph from which I have quoted, copy it in a fair round hand, and stick it up in your study. Sir, it is quite obvious to me that young naturalists must study carefully not only the pages

of entomologists, but they must also investigate the habits of insects in the woods and fields.

It gives me great pleasure to see occasionally in your pages announcements of captures of rarities, and of the intention of the captor to distribute his duplicates. What is a duplicate? I dropped into a sale-room the other day, and saw ninety-six specimens of one unfortunate species of bee in a box which had the following memorandum written inside the lid:—"This species is very rare in the West of England, although occasionally plentiful in this neighbourhood." How many of those were duplicates? What a pleasure it must be to capture ten specimens of a rare insect, and to feel that it is in your power to enrich nine other collections with the same rarity.

Perhaps you can settle another knotty point for me, When will Mr. Waterhouse finish his Catalogue of Beetles? A satisfactory answer to this will greatly oblige

Yours faithfully,

BOMBUS TERRESTRIS.

Millfield Lane, Highgate.

APIARIAN SOCIETY.—The first meeting of this newly-formed Society took place on the 23rd of May, at the rooms of the Entomological Society, Bedford Row; the Rev. S. Wand, of Brettenden, Essex, in the chair. The Report stated that an experimental Apiary had been established and placed under the care of the Secretary, at Muswell Hill, to which the public were admitted by members' orders. Mr. Shirley Hibberd stated that numerous donations had been received for the library, and that it was the intention of the Committee to institute lectures on improved systems of bee-keeping, and also to offer prizes to cottagers for the best examples of bee management. Mr. Tegetmeier described an entirely novel method of bee-keeping adopted in

America, which the Society was about to test at their Apiary. Specimens of artificial comb, and various models, apparatus, &c., were exhibited.

APROPOS OF A FLY.

THE following story of real life is not much in the strain of your usual communications, yet as it has an entomological basis, and is good in itself, I hope you may some day find a corner for it—say on the fly-leaf.

MUSCALELLA.

One spring morning a Frenchman and an Englishman met in a railway carriage, and sat down opposite each other. Monsieur was smiling and affable; John Bull reserved and self-satisfied. Monsieur would like to converse, but at first saw not his way to unloose his neighbour's tongue, and while thinking how he might begin, a fly by chance settled on the window. This gave him a cue, and he said to his *vis-a-vis*, "Behold, a fly!" No reply. Again he would try, and said, "Vat a pretty fly!" Not a sign that he was heard. Once more he would essay, "I tink he is a fly of last yeare!" The buzzing of this fly at last tickled the British Bull, and he roared out, "Ha! vous êtes Frangsay, vous ne savey rien. Dang voter pays il n'avait rien de bong. Vous faites des gongs (gants) et des bottes—ôtez vos gongs et vos bottes, et là vous êtes!" After thus easing his mind John relapsed into his usual crustaceous state, and heard no more about flies or anything else.

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J. A. BREWER, of Holmesdale House, Reigate, Surrey, begs to announce that he has still specimens on hand of most of the Insects advertised in the 'Intelligencer' of May 14, 1859. In addition to which he has the following Species, which he will be happy to supply at the prices affixed to them:—

| | s. | d. |
|---|----|--------|
| <i>Odacantha melanura</i> (from Sussex) | 0 | 6 each |
| <i>Pogonus luridipennis</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... <i>littoralis</i> | 0 | 4 ... |
| <i>Anisodaetylus pœciloides</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Stenolophus elegans</i> | 1 | 6 ... |
| <i>Auehomennus 6-punctatus</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Bembidium pallidipenne</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| ... <i>velox</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... <i>doris</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... <i>concinnum</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| ... <i>deceorum</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| <i>Stenolophus Skrimshiranus</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Dysehirius salinus</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| <i>Bradycellus cognatus</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Elaphrus multipunctatus</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Nebria Gyllenhalli</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| <i>Cryptoecephalus lineola</i> | 0 | 6 ... |

The specimens are all carded and in good condition.

J. A. B. is now prepared to supply Collections of the first division of British Coleoptera (Geodephaga), which he offers for sale at the lowest possible remunerative price, hoping thereby to promote the study of this interesting branch of Entomology, applications for which will receive immediate attention.

| | |
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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 141.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

EXCURSIONS.

WE alluded last week to the "at home" subject, and showed how any previous acquaintance was unnecessary to ensure a cordial reception, the only essential being that the caller should be an entomologist, though perhaps still unable "to distinguish a bug from a beetle."

However, we still found a backwardness in many entomologists; they were so afraid of intruding, so we resolved to meet them half-way or more than half-way; consequently we announced that we would "proceed on a collecting expedition up Burnt-Ash Lane, and would be at the finger-post where the lane forks at 6.30 P.M., July 30th, 1856." And we added, "Incipients who are too shy or too afraid of intruding to come to Mountsfield may perhaps pluck up courage enough to meet one in a lane."

It was surprising how well this hint was taken; some half dozen *old correspondents*, whose faces we had never seen, at once responded to the invitation. To be sure there was the chance of making some good captures, and the prospect of getting some practical information; but whatever was the real

attraction, the bait took, and the dusty lane of Burnt Ash was enlivened by the gambols of some eight or nine young entomologists. It is rare fun going out with a party of juveniles: everything is game to them; having collections to make even a *Plusia Gamma* is relentlessly pursued, and a *Rumia Cratægata* has to fly for its life; and the same insects which would scarcely have been boxed by an adult entomologist are carried home as great prizes by incipients.

In the following season we took a further step, and announced an excursion to West Wickham Wood. Here the meeting *in the wood* appeared so little premeditated and so like a casual *rencontre* that many who had not ventured even "to meet one in a lane," intersected our path as we strolled through the wood.

At this season of the year we do not recommend entomologists to bring lanterns; but when August is drawing to a close the evenings are so shortened that it is desirable to light up, if one wishes to make the best use of the time. We do not reckon the value of these excursions so much in the captures made as in the information imparted and the practical instruction conveyed; the various flights of different

species, the habits of larvæ, can all be pointed out on the spot, and such practical open-air demonstrations are far more serviceable than a greater amount of in-door lecturing.

Many a young entomologist has, by joining an excursion, had his attention called to features of insect economy which he might not have noticed for years if pursuing his investigations always by himself.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of
W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to
MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountfield,
Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice
will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. B. B.—Is not your larva that of *Abraxas grossulariata*?

A. D. T.—We are not aware that there is any prospect of a cheap Manual of Coleoptera; nor is there any good cheap work for enabling one who has not studied Botany at all to name plants by the sight of the leaves or withered stems. The conclusion of the 'Manual' has been repeatedly announced on the wrapper thereof, and also in the last volume of the 'Intelligencer.'

J. B. F.—By referring to the 'Manual' you will find that the genus *Polyommatus* is divided into two sections:—

A. Under side of wings with no red spots;

AA. Under side of hind wings with red spots at the hind margin;

and you will also find that *Acis* belongs to section A. Could you not have made this reference yourself?

J. K.—Is not your *Pespipicillaris* one of the common *Hadenæ*?

W. Q. C.—*Machaon* is abundant in the fens near Norwich.

R. T., JUN.—We use No. 20 gilt pins for our Tineina; to be had of Messrs. Edleston & Co., Crown Court, Cheap-side.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Cerura bicuspis and *Acronycta Alni*.—I feel great pleasure in acquainting you of my success with the larva of *C. bicuspis* and *A. Alni*, recorded in the 'Intelligencer,' vol. iv. p. 172, having to-day had a perfect and splendid specimen of the insect from each. Both of them are males. — ROBERT COOK, 10, Castle Crescent, Scarborough; May 27.

Acronycta Alni.—Last Friday, the 27th instant, we had the pleasure of capturing a fine specimen of this insect, which was resting on the trunk of an ash tree near here.—W. & J. WILLIS, 6, Bath Row, Birmingham; May 31.

Trochilium Culiciforme.—I have taken this insect in considerable numbers lately, at West Wickham Wood, at rest on the leaves of the birch trees.—C. O. ROGERS, 2, New Bank Buildings; May 30.

Cerura furcula.—A beautiful male of this species appeared in my breeding-cage yesterday afternoon; the larva was taken off white poplar, in Lewisham, on the 25th of July, and it spun up about the 16th of August, 1858. On the 14th instant I was at Castle Eden, and took there *V. C-album*, *T. Tages*, *P. Marginata* and *N. Cristulalis*. *Eupæcilia ruficiliana* was flying plentifully among the furze bushes on the sea-coast; I mention this particularly, as the 'Manual' gives the

month of August for its appearance.—
V. R. PERKINS, *Newcastle-on-Tyne*;
May 31.

Phæosia Dictæoides.—Upon looking into my breeding-cage one day this week I found a beautiful male specimen of this species, which I bred from the larva taken about the end of August or September last, on birch.—J. K. FAWCETT, *Kendal House of Correction*; May 29.

Notodonta Tritophas.—On looking into my larvæ-box yesterday morning I saw that a very perfect male specimen of this insect had changed from the chrysalis which I found last September, at the foot of an aspen on Clapham Common.—F. C. FOSTER, *Grammar School, Clapham, S.*; June 3.

Captures during the present Season.—
I have made the following captures:—

S. Papyratia. Lea Bridge, May 29.

F. Radiella. Loughton, May 8.

T. Munda. Sugar and fallows; West Wickham, March 20.

G. Aleella. Woodford, May 15; Snaresbrook, May 22, common.

L. Corylifoliella. Loughton, May 1.

„ Carpinicolella. Loughton, May 8.

L. Nicellii. Palings, Lea Bridge Road, May 9, abundant.

The dates indicate when first taken. Of *Gelechia Aleella* I have taken about eighteen or twenty specimens, most of them at Snaresbrook. *Lithocolletis Nicellii* was exceedingly abundant, and I might have taken two or three hundreds had I chosen. The following have appeared in my breeding-cage:—

Cucullia Lychnitis, May 11.

Ornix Avellanella, April 28.

Tischeria Marginea, May 30.

Lithocolletis Lautella, April 17.

„ *Coryli*, April 25.

„ *Spinicolella*, April 17.

„ *Faginella*, April 17.

„ *Carpinicolella*, April 17.

„ *Tenella*, April 18.

Lithocolletis Emberizæpennella, April 28.

„ *Nicellii*, May 3.

„ *Schreberella*, May 3.

—W. H. KILLINGBACK, 11, *Oldham Place, Coppice Row, W.C.*; June 1.

Captures at Bramham Park.—Profiting by our experience of last year, we have this season visited Bramham Park about a fortnight earlier,—namely, on the 26th of the present month,—arriving there just at the right time for *N. Lucina*, which we found in fine condition, as well as *A. Eaphrosyne*, *T. Tages* and the two *Euelidias*, especially *Glyphica*. We likewise took a pair of *T. Alveolus*, and found amongst the grass a female *D. Mendica*, which has since laid a number of eggs.—FRANCIS OATES, *St. Anne's, Burley, Leeds*; May 30.

COLEOPTERA.

Odaeantha melanura a *Sussex Species*.

—Through the kindness of one of my Sussex friends (who is a Lepidopterist), I have been informed of a Sussex locality for this very interesting species. I visited the spot in company with him on Saturday last, and am happy to say we took several specimens, but had to wade up to our knees in water to get at them, as they were only found in the decayed stems of *Typha latifolia*, some distance from the shore.—J. A. BREWER, *Holmesdale House, Reigate*; May 30.

Wimbledon.—Since my last notice I have taken the following species here:—

Notiophilus rufipes,

Anchomenus viduus,

„ *var. versutus*, Gyll.

„ *mæstus*,

„ *fuliginosus*,

Stenolophus dorsalis,

„ *conspitatus*,

Dromius melanoccephalus,

Harpalus fulvipes,

Olophrum piceum,

Philonthus cinerascens,

Ocalea badia,

Stenus ater? (if so, half the size of ordinary examples),

„ *impressus*,

„ *plaucus*,

„ *providus*,

Conurus pubescens.

The influence of a very damp peaty soil upon the colour of insects is exhibited strongly in the wet hollows here, not being confined to one species, and showing itself in different ways. *Pterostichus cupreus*, for instance, being generally much darker than usual; one specimen, indeed, I found that was perfectly black all over, and a precisely similar example of *Notiophilus aquaticus*. *Lathrobium brunnipes* also and *L. elongatum*, which both occur here (and in company), form a very puzzling pair,—nearly every specimen of the latter wanting the bright red band on the elytra, thereby looking precisely like *brunnipes* at first sight. Some species, on the contrary, appear (though quite mature) to become much lighter than usual, several of *Anchómenus fuliginosus* having distinctly brown wing-cases, and one *Nebria brevicollis* being light brown all over, though as hard and active as any of his more funereal brethren. *Anchomenus oblongus* and *Bradycellus fulvus* also frequently are found here very much darker than usual, and *Stenolophus luridus* varies considerably in depth of tone.—E. C. RYE, 284, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.

OBSERVATIONS.

Stigmonota nitidana.—I have lately bred this species from a cocoon found last January in Dulwich Wood between united oak leaves. The cocoon was formed of silk, with the grains of the excrement of the larva thickly woven on the outside. There can be little doubt that the larva feeds between the said leaves.—ROBERT McILACHLAN, Forest Hill; May 30.

Observations at Ratisbon.—Yesterday we made an excursion to the Walhalla.

The hills on the north of the Danube are very picturesque, and are covered with a great variety of plants. *Dianthus Carthusianorum*, now just coming into bloom, is plentiful, as is also *Lychnis viscaria*. *Silene nutans* is no rarity. *Stachys recta* is quite infested with the larva of *Coleophora auricella*, which makes such a very loose smock-frock for a ease; and *Coleophora Virgatella* is moderately common on *Salvia pratensis*. This last-named plant is one of the commonest field plants of the South of Germany, and gives the prevailing tint to many a meadow. Herr Ernst Hofmann gave me some larvæ of *Coleophora ochrea*, and one epicure had deserted the leaf to feast upon a bud of the *Helianthemum*. Apollo flies on these hill-sides later in the season, and Dr. Herrich-Schæffer pointed out to me the plant, *Sedum album*, on which its larva feeds.—H. T. STANTON, Ratisbon; May 28.

WASPS' NESTS.

(Concluded from p. 77.)

I may be permitted to conclude with two or three short extracts from a paper “on the habits and economy of wasps,” communicated by me some time since to the Ashmolean Society.

“The task of feeding the larvæ was greatly facilitated by the supply of syrup I placed near the nest. This process is an extremely interesting one. An attendant or nurse on returning from a foraging excursion with a caterpillar it has found on a neighbouring hedge; a piece of meat neatly rolled up, that it had purloined from a butcher's shop or somebody's larder; a specimen of the insect popularly known as ‘daddy-long-legs,’ shorn of its wings and other encumbrances, especially if the day be a windy one, for the purpose of lessening the difficulty of conveying such an unwieldy creature through a disturbed atmosphere—for wasps have powers as nearly as possible allied to reasoning ones, as

has been observed upon other occasions as well as the one recorded above; or perchance a winged ant caught in the act of migration, is met at the entrance to the nest by one, two, and sometimes three other attendants. These at once lend their aid in cutting up the 'prey,' which they not only reduce to the consistency of pulp by mastication, but to all appearance actually swallow. Having done this they separate, and taking different courses, commence feeding the larvæ which lie in their route. As they pass over a cell, the larva therein contained, if hungry, protrudes its head and applies its mouth to that of the attendant, who stops for a few seconds for the purpose of allowing it to sip its fill. This done, the latter moves on to another cell, where the process is repeated. If on the approach of the attendant a larva does not require food, instead of protruding its head it remains quiet, when the former passes on to another cell where its services may be required. In this way an attendant will feed perhaps twenty larvæ before the contents of its stomach, or whatever else may have served as a receptacle for the food it has been dispensing, is exhausted, when it again proceeds in quest of food, either leaving the nest to obtain it, or else taking part, in the manner already described, with one which has just returned from foraging. This division of labour in cutting up and reducing to a proper consistence all solid food is invariably practised; and not only so, but if one returns laden with sweets, as dissolved sugar, &c., it will be sure to be met by others eager to share in the supply for the purpose of helping to dispense it. A trio therefore will often be observed; two sipping from the mouth of a third till an equal division has been effected.

"I could not but observe that as each wasp left the nest on its first excursion in search of food or building material, it invariably passed several times backwards

and forwards in front of the window, returning to the aperture again and again before trusting itself to a distant flight. These preliminary steps, or rather flights, seemed evidently taken with the view of making itself acquainted with the principal features presented by the new locality, in order that it might be enabled to recognise the place again, and thus escape the danger of becoming bewildered and lost on returning from its wanderings. The knowledge therefore which guides these insects in their return to a particular spot, would seem not to be a mere instinctive knowledge, but one resulting from observation.

"A fact illustrative of their habits, and one which shows them to be rigid economists, wasting nothing, but making the most of everything, may here be mentioned. Having injured several of the larvæ in passing the supports through the crown of the nest, they were, as soon as discovered, dragged out of the cells containing them, and at once cut up and made to serve as food for the rest. This practice I afterwards found was constantly adhered to, not only in the case of injured larvæ, but also of such as chanced to fall sick.

"They are not only economists in the article of food, but in materials also; for as inner portions of the shell or covering of the nest are removed in order to make room for the combs, as they increase in size, the material is not thrown by as useless, but is worked up afresh; *indeed this is effected in, and by the very act of, removing it.* It is then applied to the purpose of enlarging the combs, or else used in making additions to the outside. The basis of the material employed is wood, one species using sound wood, another that which has become decayed. This they scrape by means of their jaws from off posts, rails, &c., in which act it becomes mixed with some peculiar fluid with which Nature has provided them: it then possesses nearly the same

properties as the pulp from which paper is made; it is, however, of firmer consistence. This is gathered in a small lump under the chin, to which it adheres, and in this way it is brought to the nest. The operators having — after the exhibition of a considerable amount of fickleness in the choice—fixed on a suitable place for commencing, or recommencing operations (for these remarks have reference to a nest already somewhat advanced in the building), place themselves along the edge of a yet unfinished piece, and then moving slowly backward, spread the material as they go along this edge, where it forms a thick streak. They then go forward to the point at which they began to spread the composition, and again moving backward, press this streak between their jaws, which act as a pair of pincers, thus thinning it out throughout its whole length. They then go forward a second time, pressing it still thinner, and then a third, and so on, until they have rendered it sufficiently thin. Before this is accomplished the operators have sometimes to go five or six times over their work. They do not return to the same spot with their next burden, but seek a fresh one, and thus allow the work they recently performed to become dry and firm previous to making further additions to it. Possibly the material just 'used up' was from wood of a light colour; the next used at that spot may be from dark-coloured wood, and the next from wood of an intermediate colour. This it is which gives so much beauty to the covering of the nests of these insects."—S. STONE; *May 19.*

EXCHANGE.

Lasiocampa Trifolii.—I have collected a few hundreds of the larvæ of this species, and shall be happy to supply those

who may be in want of it. Boxes had better be sent capable of holding a dozen caterpillars each. There is no difficulty whatever in rearing them; I generally give them raspberry leaves. I have seen them feeding on grass, trefoil, and on the young shoots and flowers of furze.—REV. WILLIAM HENRY HAWKER, *Green Hook, Horndean, Hants*; *May 31.*

Eriogaster Lanestris.—I have larvæ of this species, which I shall be happy to send to any one on receipt of a box and return postage. Any of the following insects or larvæ will be thankfully received, and will save return postage:—1, 39, 68, 76, 106, 114, 163, 177, 204, 218, 273, 306, 318, 402, 420, 440, 470, 477, 478.—W. G. RAWLINSON, *Taunton*; *May 31.*

Stock exhausted.—My stock of the larvæ and pupæ of *Melita Cinxia* is exhausted by ichneumons and applications; and I beg to state to those gentlemen whom I have disappointed that I hope to have larvæ to spare next autumn and pupæ next May. Could anybody favour me with larvæ or pupæ of *O. potatoria*? I will give *L. Quercus* or young *O. antiqua* larvæ for them.—W. A. LEWIS, *Springhill House, Southampton*; *June 4.*

Helops violaceus.—I shall be happy to supply any beetle-collectors who may want them with living specimens of *H. violaceus*. Boxes had better be sent and a statement of how many specimens are wished for.—REV. WILLIAM HENRY HAWKER, *Green Hook, Horndean, Hants*; *June 4.*

A CALENDAR OF LEPIDOPTERA.

JUNE.

Larvæ.—2, 9, 11—13, 17—19, 24—27, 36, 37, 41, 43—45, 48—50, 61, 64, 65, 82, 118, 119, 128, 129, 134, 136, 141, 145, 147—150, 152, 153, 157, 161, 178, 180—184, 186, 190, 191, 198, 208, 252—254, 276, 296, 316, 334, 345, 354, 357,

358, 363, 366, 367, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 379, 381, 388—390, 406, 409, 410, 412, 421, 424, 438, 462, 464, 471, 479, 482, 485, 491—493.

Imagos.—1, 5, 20—23, 30, 36—41, 46, 59, 62, 67—70, 72, 78—80, 85, 86, 90, 92, 93, 95, 97, 99, 100, 102, 103, 105, 106, 109, 110, 113, 115, 116, 119, 126, 135, 138, 140, 142, 144, 149, 158, 160, 163, 164, 166—171, 173, 177, 186, 191—194, 196, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 215, 216, 218—220, 222, 223, 226, 227, 229, 231, 232, 234, 237—240, 242—244, 246, 247, 257—262, 264, 267, 272, 275, 282, 283, 285, 287, 290—292, 299, 300, 302—304, 310, 312, 314, 315, 317, 322, 329, 330, 333, 336, 337, 340, 343, 389, 395—399, 401, 415, 416, 418—420, 423, 425—435, 446—448, 450, 451, 454, 455, 459, 461, 463, 464, 466—469, 472, 486, 495.

Note.—The dash between any two numbers signifies that the intervening numbers are included.

The number for any one month has now reached its maximum; imagos 156, larvæ 93. Doubtless late specimens of last month and early ones of next month will appear.

By an error I find I have overlooked the following larvæ to be found in May:—174, 175, 179, 184, 192—195, 200, 241, 245, 249, 250, 251, 263, 280, 288, 305—307, 318—320, 323, 339, 341—344, 347, 348, 350, 362, 364, 268, 369, 375, 380, 382, 384, 386, 391. This correction will not be too late for next year.—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough; May 30.*

ANTS' NESTS AND THE BEETLES THEREIN.

COMMUNICATED BY THE WIZARD OF THE NORTH.

—
Bishop's Square, London,
April 1, 1999.

My dear Johnson,—I am truly sorry to say I have been unable to obtain any

specimens of the wood ant for you. During the last season I visited many parts of the country which were well-wooded; these I searched most assiduously, and I also made every inquiry about them, I am sorry to say, to no purpose. I was not aware that the *Formica rufa* was quite exterminated about Croydon and Guildford, and I am surprised to hear from you that it appears to be extinct in the counties Kent and Surrey.

A few days ago I dropped upon a rare old book, in the British Museum, called 'The Entomologist's Annual;' it appears to have been published during twelve successive years, and then it appeared as a monthly work, under the title of the 'Entomologist's Monthly Register:' the only perfect copy, I believe, is in the Museum. On consulting the volume of the 'Annual' for the year 1857, I find that the wood ant was found at the very spot where this Square is now erected. I also find an account of the ravages committed by collectors of those days, not only on the nests of the wood ant, but also upon those of other species. The author very properly condemns such reprehensible proceedings, and it appears plainly to me that he clearly foresaw the gradual but certain extinction of the species.

I am told that ants have become quite as rare in France and Germany. In another scarce work, which appeared contemporary with the 'Annual,' I have discovered several papers which tend to show the origin of the cause of ant extermination. It appears that ants' nests were sent from one part of the kingdom to the other in sacks, in order that entomologists might examine them at their leisure in search of small Coleoptera! hence such acquired the name of "Ants'-nest Beetles." One entomologist, "whose only care was to increase his store," made many a foray upon ants' nests, and even boasts of having "fought and conquered" them, treading numbers of those interesting insects under foot. Unluckily the mischief

resulting from such practices did not stop at ant annihilation, it also deprived us of the rare beetles which inhabited their nests. How few have had the good fortune to see a specimen of *Hetariius sesquicornis* or of *Dinarda Maerkelii*! Specimens of both species still exist in the Museum collection, and are supposed to have been placed there by the author of the paper referred to in 'The Entomologist's Annual.'

Now that every house contains a Museum of Natural History, and by far the greater number a collection of insects, it is greatly to be regretted that so few of the species of British ants are to be found in them, which are described by Smith in his 'Monograph' on the genus, which was published by the Trustees of the British Museum in 1858, a rare work and one of great interest at the present time.

Of the *Formica fusca*, which you inquire about, I have six examples, one mutilated: these specimens were purchased by my father at the sale of the Holloway Museum Collection of Natural History. The *F. fusca* is the ant which, in the rare work first alluded to, is stated to delight in forming its nest in "loamy hedge-banks having a western aspect:" in such situations I have often searched for it, but vainly.

It has occurred to me that possibly I might find wood ants in some of the Royal Parks, if I could obtain permission to search there; but such is the universal dread of entomologists in the present day, in consequence of their merciless depredations, that I fear I have little chance of success. I heard the other day of a collector who was detected in a young fir plantation, where he had done immense damage by thrashing the young trees, for which offence he was committed for two months with hard labour and oakum picking.

You shall hear from me again soon, till when, believe me, Yours faithfully,

STEVENSON POWERSON.

OBITUARY.

On the 23rd of May, at Eaton Terrace, St. John's Wood, after a lingering and painful illness, John Garland, Esq., of Dorchester, Dorset, Fellow of the Linnean Society, and a Member of the Entomological Society of London.

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Printed and published by EDWARD NEWMAN, Printer, of No. 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Without, London, in the County of Middlesex.—Saturday, June 11, 1859.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 142.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

ANTS' NESTS.

THE wonders of ants' nests are not yet half explored. Ants' nests, it is true, are systematically searched for small Staphylinidæ, but your beetle-hunter turns over and ignores other queer things. The discovery of a *Tinea* (*T. ochraceella*) peculiar to ants' nests might, one would have thought, have stimulated Lepidopterists to further investigations; but no, your butterfly-hunter belongs to a supine race, and it never enters his head to search in the nests of Formicidæ for a new British Noctua.

The recent announcement that one of the Diurnal Lepidoptera has been observed in the East Indies to frequent ants' nests, and, though endowed with wings, makes no more use of them than *Tinea ochraceella*, may perhaps serve as a starting point for further discoveries.

The insect in question was figured more than thirty years ago in Dr. Horsfield's work on the 'Insects of Java' (pl. 2, fig. 2), under the name of *Symetha Pandu*; and the dissections on the plate show the peculiar structure of the legs—legs made for use, and therefore unlike most legs of butterflies.

Dr. Herrich-Schäffer called our attention lately to the fact of a "Tag-falter" having been discovered which took up its residence permanently within the nests of ants, and pointed out the peculiar structure of the legs; the accounts he had received of its habits led irresistibly to the conclusion that this singular butterfly never disported itself on the wing, but wandered listlessly in the labyrinths of the ants' nests. On mentioning the peculiar structure of the legs to Mr. Westwood, he at once called our attention to the plate illustrating Dr. Horsfield's work, and we cannot entertain a doubt that Dr. Herrich-Schäffer's insect will be found identical with the *Symetha Pandu* of Horsfield, or at least congeneric with it, if the supposition of two species of butterfly living in company with ants be not deemed too preposterous.

If a *Tinea* and if one of the Rhopalocera frequent ants' nests, it is scarcely credible that the Noctuina and Geometrina are yet unrepresented in the formicarium, and though some will no doubt shudder at the devastation to the ants which would ensue from the discovery of a new Noctua or a new Geometra in the interior of the domicile of any of the Formicidæ, we cannot, as journalists, hesitate to record this

new fact, and to call attention to its logical sequence.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. T. will find much of the practical information he requires in the second edition of the 'Entomologist's Annual' for 1855, published by Van Voorst, Paternoster Row, price 2s. 6d.

E. J.—There is no complete list of the British Coleoptera, and none with English names. Beetle larvæ have no prolegs, only the six anterior legs. The Oak Eggar larva will eat almost anything.

F. C.—Due notice will be given of the next Excursion; the last took place on the 7th of May. Hampstead, Wanstead, Charlton, West Wickham, Sanderstead, Wimbledon Common and Hammersmith Marshes, are all good localities for certain insects.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Polyommatus Artaxerxes.—As it may be interesting to the readers of the 'Intelligencer,' I beg to inform you that I captured fourteen specimens of this pretty little butterfly on Monday last, on the steep grassy side of Dumyot, above Blair Logie. The extreme steepness of the

hill-side and the slipperiness of the grass (caused by the long-continued dry weather) made it no easy matter to pursue them, and I saw many more specimens than I captured. I also captured, in the same locality, a fine specimen of *Charocampa Porcellus*, apparently newly emerged from the chrysalis. Higher up on Dumyot, on the heath, I captured three specimens of *Melitæa Artemis*.—J. WINGATE, *Dunallan Cottage, Bridge of Allun*; June 10.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have great pleasure in informing the readers of the 'Intelligencer' that my friend Mr. Hudson has at present in his possession a fine male specimen of *Sphinx Convolvuli*, which was taken at Kirkstall on the 8th of this month, at rest in a garden.—FRANCIS OATES, *St. Anne's, Burley, Leeds*; June 13.

Procris Statice.—Knowing that this species is local, and having found a locality for it,—viz. Acton fields,—I thought I might inform you of it, for the good of your readers.—C. A. BIRD; June 9.

Captures near Croydon.—I took to-day near Croydon—

Polyommatus Agestis (9),

„ *Adonis* (5 ♂ and 1 ♀),

„ *Alsus* (13).

—C. O. ROGERS, 2, *New Bank Buildings, E.C.*; June 8.

Captures at West Wickham Wood.—I visited West Wickham Wood on Saturday, the 4th instant, and made the following captures by daylight only:—

Sesia fuciformis,

Trochilium Cynipiforme,

„ *Culiciforme*,

Nemeophila Plantaginis.

I also took *T. Cynipiforme* and *Culiciforme* at rest on birch leaves.—SAMUEL TIBBS, jun., 9, *Finsbury Place South, Finsbury Square, E.C.*; June 7.

Entomological Notes and Captures at Deal.—A few specimens of *Colias Edusa* have been seen along the coast, which

denotes that some few will make their appearance next month. *Polyommatus Albus*, *Adonis* and *Agestis* are full out; *Melitæa Cinxia* plentiful. Specimens of *Sphinx Ligustri* are picked up by children in all directions. *Setina irrorella* and *Arctia villica* are just out. In many places the whitethorn hedges are eaten bare by the larva of the Brown Tail (*Liparis Chrysorrhæa*). Plenty of things attend the sugar on some nights, but nothing worth recording yet. *L. albicolon* found on the sand-hills.

Aspilates Citraria,
Lozogramma lineolaria,
Anticlea rubidaria,
Harpalyce galiaria,
Timandra emutaria,
,, imitaria,
Bradyepetes amataria,
Tortrix spectrana,
Eupœcilia sodaliana,
,, udana,
,, humidana,
Argyrolepis maritima,
Cochylis gigantana,

The females of *Depressaria Alstræmeriana* are now depositing their ova on the *Conium maculatum*; in some cases the young larva are feeding in spun-up leaves: this insect enjoys a much longer period of life than is allotted to others; they are to be taken from July to June,—eleven months of the year. Numbers of cases of *Coleophora troglodytella* on the leaves of the *Eupatoria Cannabinum*, and *Pterophorus microdactylus* on the same plant, now out in plenty. Any one wanting the last two species can have them by sending a box with return postage.—H. J. HARDING, *Noah's Ark*, Peter Street, Deal; June 13.

COLEOPTERA.

Beetles in Sand-pits.—As the season advances, insects, like ourselves, begin to wander in search of prey, and the air seems full and the earth teeming with these active little wanderers flying and

running to and fro. Numbers there are, however, which we seldom see on the move, among beetles especially, as they only travel by night, concealing themselves by day under stones, at the roots of plants, &c. But if there happen to be any pits in the neighbourhood, into those pits some of these night wanderers will most assuredly fall, and falling therein cannot get out, unless they use their wings, which beetles in such situations seldom seem to do. Sand-pits especially are excellent beetle-traps, more so than chalk-pits, as the looseness of the soil baffles all attempts to scale the walls of the trap. This the ant-lion seems to know to his advantage. Sand-pits in this neighbourhood I have found very fruitful. Amongst others I have taken the following:—

Clivina fossor (in abundance).

Pterostichi (several).

Falagria sulcata.

Ocalea picata,

Atemeles emargiatus (from the jaws of an ant, bravely attempting the ascent with the beetle in its mouth).

Xantholinus fulgidus,

Lathrobium brunnipes.

,, elongatum.

,, lorigulum.

Apion subulatum?

,, marchicum,

,, violaceum,

,, carduorum,

,, rufirostris,

,, virens,

,, nigritarsis, &c.

Haltica brassicæ,

Thyamis pusilla,

Chætocnema aridella, &c.

Also *Throscus dermestoides* (perambulating the base of the walls) and *Leiosomus ovatulus* in abundance. The carnivorous portion of this assembly seemed to enjoy itself at the expense of the vegetarians, the Rhynchophora and Cyclica, who were evidently not by any means suited to their tastes. Numbers

of minute *Pselaphidæ* I also found half buried in the sand, or vainly endeavouring to crawl on what to them was a rough shingle. — THOMAS LINNELL, *Redstone Wood, near Reigate*; June 13.

KILLING INSECTS.—I must return to the charge, on the subject of cyanide of potassium as a means of killing insects; but first to refute the objection of its danger. It is already in the hands of every dabbler in photography, and will not therefore be new to many; it is also, if anything, less dangerous than oxalic acid, so generally employed. The smell is pungent, and to many offensive; oxalic acid has none; chloroform is so seductive that I often myself take a good gulp of its vapour, and I can fancy the shivering delight of many a youngster who might try it. There is another substitute, tobacco smoke, *very good* for *Tineæ* and small *Geometræ*, *experto crede*, and in the interval between the daily and twilight work it is pleasant to think one's inhalation of the tabooed nicotiana is productive as well as soothing; it has the peculiar advantage of not stiffening the corpses, which cyanide and chloroform do most effectually. I recommend, therefore, that *Noctuæ* and *manageable Geometræ* be killed by cyanide and tartaric acid in solution, and then double killed by oxalic acid; this will render them setable at once. *Tineæ*, I believe, are never better than when killed by tobacco smoke puffed in the boxes or tubes. At home I should prefer immersing the glass tube in hot water for a second or two; but when all your boxes are filled, and evening is drawing on in a fine locality far from home, tobacco is a magnificent *pis aller*! By cementing up one's pill-boxes with a spirit varnish the process of killing and relaxing may be combined; the insects put in at night will be fit for setting in the morning. Finally, in respect to beetles, a tube corked at

both ends with a small pledget of wool moistened with cyanide in the centre will kill every denizen instantaneously, and will also preserve him relaxed and without putrifying for at least two months. The larger beetle-bottles may be lined with blotting-paper similarly moistened. Whoever has seen the desperate struggles made by a crowd of wretches to escape from what must be to them a fearful "black hole of Calcutta" will employ this or similar means, on the score of humanity and expediency. — W. D. CROTCH, *Uphill House, Weston-super-Mare*; May 24.

[Why adopt any such methods when laurel-leaves for *Lepidoptera*, and the same or hot water for *Coleoptera* are amply sufficient?]

THE BRITISH TORTRICES.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—Apologising for the unintentional omission of the habitat, &c., of *Dicro-rampa alpinana*, as referred to in the 'Intelligencer' of the 28th ultimo, p. 72, I beg now to repair it.

The said species is uncommon and somewhat variable; it resembles *D. Petiverella*, *sequana* and *politana* in general appearance, but is *larger than either*; it may be distinguished from all by the *less distinctly defined posterior edge* of the dorsal blotch.

It has occurred in July and August at Charlton, on the hill-side, near the main road at the sand-pits; on the Downs at Stoat Nest and Godstone Road, beyond Croydon; at Brislington, &c.

Larva unknown.

I remain, sir,
Your obedient servant,

S. J. WILKINSON.

7, Jeffrey's Square,
St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.;
June 1, 1859.

THE ACCENTUATED LIST.

—
To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I am quite disappointed by the unfavourable notices of the 'Accentuated List' in the 'Intelligencer.' My own opinion is that it is a great boon, not only to the unlearned, but to the moderately learned also. There can be no doubt that there was a great want of such a work; to me it seems that the present work supplies that want. The Entomological Societies of the two Universities undertook a task peculiarly suitable to them, and they have accomplished it in a manner which appears to me to deserve the thanks of entomologists. Their main objects were two, to rule the pronunciation of the scientific names, and, when practicable, to give the derivations and reasons of those names. On the first of these they have brought to bear that extensive classical learning and that accurate scholarship which we had a right to expect from Members of learned Universities. Here lay their strength, and they have put it out in a way which ought to make this work an authority on the pronunciation of entomological names. The same qualifications fitted them for the accomplishment of their second object, the derivations and reasons of the names; but, as a considerable acquaintance with the history and literature of Entomology was requisite for this part of their work, our thanks are also due to those eminent entomologists by whose kindness they were enabled to collect so much interesting information from beyond the classical pale. These were the two great objects proposed, and perhaps there are few competent judges but will rise from an examination of the 'Accentuated List' with the conviction that it has attained these objects.

The remaining matter consists of a Preface and short sketches of the lives of leading entomologists past and present.

The former, though unexpected, is by no means, to me, an unwelcome addition to the book; and I think there are many who have not, like yourself, an extensive entomological library, who will be glad to refer to this compendious biographical dictionary for the explanation of those *W. Vs.*, *Fischs.*, *Haws.* and *Scops.*, which have so long added obscurity to the obscure science of synonyms.

I shall conclude with a few remarks on the Preface, which is a very important part of the work.

1. It would not be fair to blame the authors for the arrangement which they have adopted. Arrangement was not their province; and they cannot be said to have acted unreasonably in giving a preference to the latest, and what appeared likely to be the most popular arrangement, the eccentricities of which must be laid at the doors of its proper parents.

2. With regard to the changes in some of the names, it cannot be doubted that, owing to the want of classical learning among entomologists, names have been formed in violation of classical rules; and that some names, correctly formed at first, have got wrong in the press, and the errors become stereotyped. If error then is ever to be corrected, changes in these names must be made. In attempting these changes the authors of the 'Accentuated List' have thought it their duty to adhere strictly to recognised rules, disregarding euphony, it may be thought, but therein following the example of many distinguished nomenclators before them. It might, however, have appeared less presumptuous if they had printed the old name as that of the insect, and included their proposed correction in brackets; and here it may be remarked that they have not in all cases adhered to their rule of bracketing the old name, as may be seen in *Lubricipes* (p. 12), *Helvola* (p. 11), &c., &c.

3. In No. 137 of the 'Intelligencer'

you appear to have mistaken the passage in the Preface about the pronunciation of *Cassiope* and such words. You say that you shall continue to pronounce it *Cassiope*, "in spite of instructions here given to pronounce it *Cass'iope*." But the passage you refer to leaves it an open question:—"But this point, on which so great difference of opinion exists, we leave each entomologist to decide for himself."

4. I heartily concur with the recommendation, "that it is advisable to maintain a uniformity of termination throughout each tribe to assist the memory; and I congratulate the Tortrices, the Pyrales and the Tineæ on their recovery of this advantage in Mr. Doubleday's new 'List' (awarded to them, one would think, on account of their diminutive size), while I must still condole with the Geometræ, whose more elevated position and increased political importance must be paid for, it seems, by the usual drawbacks of dissension and party spirit.

It is certainly to be regretted that some species have been omitted from the 'List,' either intentionally or by mistake. I am not aware of any among the Macros, but in the Micros I may mention *Mixodia Bouchardana* (p. 65), *Stigmonota interruptana* and *Heegerana* (p. 71), *Catoptria parvulana* (p. 72), besides some of the Tineæ. There are also some strange corrections made in the "Errata" (on what principle it is difficult to understand): *Tipuliformis*, *Myopiformis*, *Formiciformis*, for *Tipulæformis*, &c., and *Uropteryx* for *Urapteryx*.

But these omissions and inaccuracies may perhaps be corrected in a second edition; at any rate they detract very little from the value of the work, which, considering its merits, appears to have been coldly received. Entomology and Etymology have hitherto been too much divided; whilst from their similarity of feature, the ignorant have frequently mistaken the one for the other; in reality

France and Austria have not been more at variance. It ought therefore to be a satisfaction to all mutual friends of these two sciences, that, through the intervention of the English Universities (more successful than that other intervention of the English Government), an alliance between them has at last been arranged.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

REV. E. HORTON.

Wick, Worcester;

May 24.

ENTOMOLOGY IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Easton, Pennsylvania,

United States,

May 15, 1859.

Sir,—At the urgent solicitation of myself and others, Professor Henry, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has consented to authorise entomological collections, on behalf of the Institution, throughout the United States and at the military stations in the Indian territories. This will doubtless result in accumulating an immense amount of material, which will be distributed amongst students, who devote themselves to special orders, to methodize and describe. Then the Institution is preparing to issue a complete collecting Manual, giving minute and specific directions in the collection, preservation and method of observation of the various orders of insects. For the purpose of distributing it widely over the country, it will appear, in the first place, in the Smithsonian Report for the present year, and a large number of the article itself will be distributed as a circular.

The effect of this, however, will be seen in the future, and I have but little doubt that the future of "Entomology in America" will be a bright one.

I have just completed a synoptical paper on the Sphingidæ of the North-

American continent, with descriptions of nearly 100 species. Of course all these are not my own, for I have been compelled to extract many from Mr. Walker's List of the British Museum. It is intended, however, only as a basis on which the information, so much needed respecting species in our country, can be conveniently worked up. I have added to it an "Essay on the Classification of the Heterocera." You must not smile; you must remember that here we are untrammelled by any established reference books, which tie down minds to some particular ideas. With us everything has yet to be done, and in what I have written I have endeavoured to treat the subject philosophically, and with reference to what I regard as *natural*. This paper will be published during the summer in the 'Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences' in Philadelphia. * * *

I have, however, something else to tell you, which will perhaps give you more pleasure. I have been working at the Micros, or rather the Tineina. I could have accomplished much more than I have, had I not suffered during last summer from several weeks of illness that confined me to my room. The majority of my summer observations were lost, or at least their results. During the Fall, however, I managed to collect and describe about sixty larvæ; the perfect insects have been appearing during the last week or two, but many, I fear, have died in the pupa state.

The following are some of the genera which I have recognised beyond any doubt:—

Plutella.

Coleophora.

Gracilaria.

Ornix.

Cosmopteryx (a most beautiful species, which, I think, must be very like *Drurella*).

Tischeria.

Lithocolletis (about fifteen species).

Nepticula larvæ were collected, but have not yet produced perfect insects.

BRECKENRIDGE CLEMENS.

(To be continued.)

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Catalogue of British Fossorial Hymenoptera, Formicidæ and Vespidæ in the Collection of the British Museum. By FREDERICK SMITH, V.-P.E.S. London: printed by order of the Trustees. 1858. Price 6s.

ANOTHER volume from the pen of Mr. Smith we gladly welcome. The title sufficiently explains the contents of the 'Catalogue' before us, and we proceed to give some extracts for the benefit of such of our readers as have not yet seen the volume.

We pass over the Formicidæ for the present, and plunge at once into the Fossores, the habits of which insects are always interesting.

Of the genus *Sapyga*, which comprises only two British species, *Punctata* and *Clavicornis*, we read as follows (p. 50):—

"The economy of this genus of insects has been a disputed point with entomologists; by some they are stated to be parasitic; by others that they store up the larvæ of Lepidoptera for their young brood; St. Fargeau states that he observed the latter circumstance. I have also observed the same fact; the female was seen hovering about a sand-bank, closely perforated by a species of *Colletes*, and was carrying its prey, with which it entered a burrow; the prey appeared to be a caterpillar, and on digging into the bank, four cells filled with small green caterpillars were found; the contents of each were carefully placed in a separate pill-box, and from each mass was reared a specimen of *Sapyga punctata*. It is

most probable that *Sapyga* never constructs its own burrow, but avails itself of one formed by some other insect. They may be observed, not uncommonly, entering the burrows of *Chelostoma* and of different species of *Osmia*. The fact of the larvæ feeding on caterpillars proves that Robineau-Desvoidy was deceived by finding the cocoons of *Sapyga* in snail-shells occupied also by *Osmia heliicola*: from this circumstance he concluded that the *Sapyga* was parasitic; but its being found there only proved that it had equal sagacity to the *Osmia*, and consequently availed itself of the ready-formed tubes, so admirably adapted for its purposes."

In the following genus, *Pompilus*, we are not furnished with any general observations on the habits of the species. This we the more regret, because the *Pompili*, as spider-eaters, occupy a conspicuous post in the entomological world. We have heard the story of an inquisitive boy, who propounded the inquiry, "If spiders eat flies and all other sorts of insects, what eats the spiders?" Had this juvenile ever seen a *Pompilus* provisioning its nest, he would have discovered that his question was not so much of a poser as he had fancied.

In the observations on the genus *Amophila* (p. 80) we read:—

"This genus is one of considerable extent, although only three species inhabit Britain; its geographical range is extensive, being not only found in the four quarters of the globe, but in latitudes extending from the frigid to the torrid zones. The habits of the British species are well known. *A. sabulosa* I have frequently observed conveying caterpillars to its burrow, for the food of its larva; having formed the burrow, and a chamber at its extremity, the female conveys a caterpillar into the cell, upon which she deposits and affixes an egg; subsequently she stores up three or four additional ones, and her task is completed; each time that she deposits a

caterpillar, she carefully stops up the entrance with a few pebbles; she does not wait until each caterpillar is devoured before supplying another; if uninterrupted by weather or other circumstances, the whole are stored up in a few hours, and she then proceeds to construct a fresh burrow. Shuckard says, 'I have never observed these insects convey caterpillars.' Having, as above stated, observed *A. sabulosa* with her prey, I may here add that I have seen this insect with its prey probably fifty times, and always with a caterpillar. *A. viatica* appears as invariably to prey upon spiders. I have never seen it with a caterpillar."

The Summer Season in Country Places.

Recently published, in fcap. 8vo, price 3s. cloth,

JUNE; a Book for the Country in Summer Time. By H. T. STANTON.

"This little work is pervaded by a healthy tone of kindness, and an elastic spirit of thankful enjoyment, which, we think, cannot but exercise a beneficial influence, especially on the young naturalist, who is always the favourite object of Mr. Stainton's solicitude."—*Athenæum*.

London: Longman & Co.

Completion of the 'Manual.'

On the 1st of July will be published price 3d., No. 33 of

A MANUAL of BRITISH BUTTERFLIES and MOTHS. By H. T. STANTON.

London: John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster Row.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 143.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.

LOCALITIES.

WE are sometimes rather pestered with letters from incipients enquiring whether such and such localities are good, and what they ought to get there. Our reply generally, in such cases, is "Go and see."

In the 'Entomologist's Companion,' p. 99, we remarked of Hammersmith Marshes that that locality "has produced several good insects, probably more owing to the continuous exertions of Mr. Stevens than to any intrinsic goodness of the place." And we further added, "We continually find that it is *the person* and not *the place* that makes a good locality. Thus the reputation Ripley has enjoyed for more than a quarter of a century is owing to the late Mr. Stephens having collected assiduously there for six weeks."

No doubt some soils are better than others; thus sand is to be preferred to clay, and chalk to sand, but the best localities are where the chalk and sand meet, as you then get two sets of plants, and consequently a double variety of insects. In the Northern Counties limestone supplies the place of chalk, and is nearly, if not quite, as productive.

A correspondent lately asked, "What part of Epping Forest is best to visit? I find 'Epping' mentioned so often in the 'Manual' as the locality of various insects that I wish to make a trip there one of the first fine days." Now, if Mr. Doubleday had not lived at Epping we should never have heard of Epping as a locality for insects, and if Mr. Doubleday had resided at West Wickham all the world would have concluded that West Wickham was a first-rate locality for insects; nay, we are not sure that if Mr. Doubleday had resided at Hampstead, people who reside at Kentish Town would not all have been flocking to Hampstead "as the locality for various insects."

Another correspondent writes, "In the midsummer holidays I shall most probably be at Dawlish, where I have friends, and hope to make frequent excursions to Teignmouth, and should like to know what you include in that locality. Does it include Haldon? as, that hill lying between the towns I have mentioned, it would save me a long walk if I had only to go to the top of Haldon and not down into Teignmouth." Now Teignmouth is mentioned as a locality simply because Dr. Jordan resided there in his youth, and insects which he took in the

neighbourhood are noted, in the 'Manual,' as "Te." But suppose Dr. Jordan had spent his boyhood at Dawlish, then Teignmouth would not have figured in the 'Manual,' and Dawlish would; and then a schoolboy spending his holidays at Teignmouth would have been for going over to Dawlish every day, because it was such a good locality. The locality that is *nearest* to the collector is generally the best. Entomologists go from Exeter, and some even from London, to visit the sand-hills at Dawlish Warren; one who resides near should *make hay whilst the sun shines!*

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hackett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

At Beverley, of John Ward, News Agent, &c., 'Recorder' Office.

At Birmingham, of Robert Burns, 63, Edmond Street.

At Brighton, of John Taylor, News Agent, &c., 86, North Lane.

At Cheltenham, of C. Andrew, 129, High Street.

At Darlington, of M. Simonson, News Agent, Bondgate.

At Hemel Hempstead, of H. Salter, Bookseller, &c., High Street.

At Leeds, of J. Fox, Bookseller, &c., Boundary Terrace, Burley Road.

At Maidstone, of Messrs. Nicholsons, Brothers, Printers, &c., 31, Mill St.

At Middleton, of John Fielding, Bookseller, Wood Street.


At Oldham, of John Holt, Bookseller, 6, George Street.

At Rotherham, of H. Carr, Bookseller, Bridge Street.

At Sheffield, of C. K. Jarvis, News Agent, Post Office, Barker's Pool.

At Worcester, of G. Morgan, Bookseller and News Agent, Little Angel St.

At York, of R. Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

EXCHANGE.—The pressure of matter is still so great that we must in future charge for lists of duplicates and desiderata,—

| | |
|--|-----|
| | d. |
| Under half a column . . . | 0 6 |
| Above half a column, but under half a page . . . | 1 0 |
| Above half a page, but under a page | 2 0 |

Correspondents therefore will please enclose stamps for these amounts when they send notices which belong to the heading of "Exchange."

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Would you oblige me by altering my direction in your next 'Annual' from White Swan, Epping, Essex, to Epping Place, Epping, Essex? And would you also mention me as a collector of British Tortricids, those being the only Lepidoptera I collect?—B. PIFFARD, *Epping Place, Epping, Essex; June 19.*

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.—Having left Bruckley Lane, my address is now—HENRY RAMSAY COX, 1, Gloucester Villas, Lewisham High Road (near the Naval School), New Cross, S.E.

MR. STAINTON will not be "at home" on Wednesday, July 6th, but he will be "at home" instead on Wednesday, June 29th, at 6 p. m. as usual.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. B.—*Polyommatus Arion* and *Thecla Pruni* will both appear about the second week in July, earlier if the season be forward.

F. N.—Your insect is the variety of *Agestis* termed *Salmaeis*.

H. R. C. — *Tortrix Viridana*, vol. ii. p. 198.

G. G. M., FRANKFURT.—Die *Butalis* Raupen sind glücklich angekommen; die Art ist *Fusco-ænea*, Haworth. Meine beste Danken dafür.

E. H.—The *Illigerella* are only *Depressaria Angelicella*! H. T. made the same mistake last year, so console yourself; thanks for your good intentions.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Polyommatus Arion.—It is with pleasure that I write to inform you that I have taken (within six miles of this town) *P. Arion* in tolerable abundance. They are to be found in three different localities near here, and I took three pairs of them as early as the 8th of this month; these were in excellent condition, but those which I took yesterday are, I am sorry to say, overflown. I also saw a very fine specimen of *Aporia Cratægi* yesterday, but the wind was up, and I could not catch him.—W. H. COMYN, *Wolseley Villa, Cheltenham*; June 16.

Erastria venustula.—On the 13th inst. I made a capture of two specimens of that very rare species *Erastria venustula* in Epping Forest. I took them during a smart shower of rain. One of them is a beautiful specimen of the insect, and tallies with the description in the 'Manual,' with the exception that the rosy tinge is spread over the whole of the fore wing, deepening towards the centre.—JOHN BAKER, 7, Blossom Street, Norton Folgate, N.E.; June 20.

COLEOPTERA.

Coleoptera at Down.—We three very young collectors have lately taken, in the parish of Down, six miles from Bromley, Kent, the following beetles, which we believe to be rare, namely, *Licinus silphoides*, *Panagus 4-pustulatus* and *Clytus mysticus*. As this parish is only fifteen miles from London, we have thought that you might think it worth while to insert this little notice in the 'Intelligencer.'—FRANCIS, LEONARD & HORACE DARWIN.

OBSERVATIONS.

Larva of Mæsia Belgiaria.—During the past week I have bred several fine specimens of this insect, from larvæ found feeding on heath at West Wickham. I have also bred *C. rotundaria*, from larva found on sallow at Colchester.—D. T. B.

EXCHANGE.

Melitæa Artemis.—Having taken a quantity of this species, I should be glad to exchange it for any common local species of either moth or butterfly. My collection is small, and therefore anything local would be useful. I will pay one half of postage.—WILLIAM HOLCROFT, *Upholland, Wigan*.

Pterostoma palpina.—Any of my old correspondents can have eggs of this insect by enclosing addressed envelope.—G. GASCOYNE, *Newark*; June 20.

Arctia Villica.—I have larvæ of this species to spare, and shall be glad to hear from those in want of it, at the same time stating what they will give in exchange. In the 'Manual' I see that September is given as the month in which the eggs are hatched; but the larvæ which I have now on hand were hatched about the 3rd and 4th of this

month, from eggs laid by specimens taken about the middle of May.—J. B. CRAWFORD, *Park House, Cotham, near Bristol*; June 17.

Exchange.—I shall be happy to exchange *Polyommatus Arion* for any of the following:—

Colias Hyale,

Melitæa Cinxia,

„ *Athalia*,

Argynnis Lathonia.

—W. H. COMYN, *Wolseley Villa, Cheltenham*; June 16.

Surplus Specimens.—Having the undermentioned in duplicate and not wanting them myself, they may, although common, be acceptable to incipients, and I will give them away to any who may think it worth while to send for them. I put them in the order of the index to the 'Manual,' viz.—Nos. 2, 3, 10, 13, 15, 18, 21, 34, 35, 36, 69, 45, 46, 65, 66, 72, 74, 78, 85, 87, 114, 135, 136, 137, 147, 169, 171, 173, 179, 185, 189, 332, 337, 413, 444. Besides these I have many Noctuæ, Pyralides and Geometræ, which it would take up too much space to mention. I have some in the larva, some in the pupa and some in the imago states. Persons writing for them must understand that they must free me of any postage charges.—J. S. DELE, 126, *Navy Row, Morrice Town, Devonport*; June 18.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Oxford University Entomological Society, held in the Christchurch Museum, on the 7th of June, J. O. Westwood, Esq., M.A. (the President), in the chair, after the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting, Dr. Wallace presented a large box of British Lepidoptera to the Society.

Six new members were elected, including one of the Fellows of St. John's College.

Mr. D. Timins exhibited two species of the genus *Catocala* (taken in North America), at present undetermined, and not in the Collection at the British Museum; also a species of *Thecla*, and two species of *Anthrocera* from the neighbourhood of Boulogne, the latter bred from the larvæ. Mr. Timins also read some notes on the larvæ of *A. Loti* and *Filipendulæ*.

The President continued his remarks on the characteristics of the Lepidoptera, and spoke of the great assistance which an examination of the veins of the wings of insects of that order was capable of affording in the difficult work of classification, and of the interest there is in tracing among the moths the modifications of the veins which exist in butterflies, which are generally taken as the type. He thought that Mr. Wilkinson, in his very excellent work on the Tortricina, had not caught the true relations between the veins of the wings of this family and those of other tribes.

The Rev. H. A. Pickard then criticised an article in the 'Intelligencer' of the 14th of May, 1859, upon the 'Accentuated List,' in which the author, though speaking favourably of it on the whole, observed, "We shall continue to talk of *Cassiope*, in spite of the instructions here given to pronounce it *Cas-sio-pee*, which is but one remove from the erroneous pronunciation we have often heard of *Cas-si-ōpe*;" and also that the names of several species had been omitted in the 'Accentuated List.' In answer to the first charge, Mr. Pickard referred the reviewer to page 7 of the Preface, where it is expressly stated that no rule was laid down in the case of quadrisyllabic words of this nature, as scholars differ much in opinion as to their pronunciation. As to the second charge, the omission of certain species, the reason of this was that the compilers of the 'Accentuated List' trusted perhaps too implicitly to a manuscript copy of Mr. Doubleday's 'List,'

which he very kindly sent them, as the ground of their work, and which was not then published; and in this manuscript copy he had accidentally omitted several names; several species had also been discovered, or at least named, between the publishing of the 'Accentuated List' and that of Mr. Doubleday. Several species had, on the other hand, been supplied in the 'Accentuated List' which Mr. Doubleday had omitted, even in his corrected copy. Mr. Pickard then brought forward the following list of those species omitted in the 'Accentuated List' but inserted by Doubleday, and also of those omitted by Doubleday but inserted in the 'Accentuated List,' drawn up by J. W. Dunning, Esq., M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge:—

Species inserted by Doubleday, which are omitted from the Oxford and Cambridge 'Accentuated List.'

- Sesia Scoliaformis, *Hüb.*
- Nola Centonalis, *Hüb.*
- *Lithosia Griseola, *Hüb.*
- Sophronia Emortualis, *W. V.*
- Diasemia Ramburialis, *Dup.*
- *Stenopteryx Hybridalis, *Hüb.*
- *Crambus Inquinatellus, *W. V.*
- Phycis Adelphella, *F.-v.-R.*
- Spilonota Simplana, *F.-v.-R.*
- „ Amænana, *Dup.*
- Mixodia Bouchardana, *Dbl.*
- Coccyx Distinctana, *Bent.*
- Endopisa Interruptana, *H.-S.?*
- Stigmonota Heegerana, *Dup.*
- Catoptria Parvulana, *Wilkinson.*
- Eupæcilia Curvistriana, *Wilkinson.*
- Psyche Salicolella, *Bru.*
- „ Tabulella, *Gu.*
- „ Intermediella, *Gu.*
- Gelechia Arundinetella, *Zel.*
- Harpella Bracteella, *L.*
- *Gracilaria Quadruplcella, *Zel.*
- Elachista Alpinella, *Edl.*
- Nepticula Pomella, *Van.*
- Pterophorus Isodaetylus, *Zel.*

* Omitted from the 'Accentuated List'

by mistake. Several of the above are given in our threepenny list, though not in the five shilling book.

Species omitted by Doubleday, but given in our List.

AS REPUTED BRITISH SPECIES.

- Sphinx Pinastris, *L.*
- Hydrilla Palustris, *Hüb.*
- Agrotis Fennica, *Gu.*
- Xanthia Ocellaris, *Bork.*
- Dianthecia Albimacnla, *Bork.*
- Valeria Oleagina, *W. V.*
- Miselia Bimaculosa, *L.*
- Calophasia Linariæ, *W. V.*
- Chariclea Delphinii, *L.*
- Heliothis Scutosa, *W. V.*
- Ephestia Ceratoniella, *F.-v.-R.*
- Anesychia Pusiella, *L.*
- „ Bipunctella, *F.*

AS VARIETIES.

- Tinea Ruricolella, *Sta.*
- Nemophora Carteri, *Sta.*
- Depressaria Libanotidella, *Sta.*
- Pancalia Latreillella, *Curt. (♂ of Lewenhoeckella).*
- Nepticula Apicella, *Sta.*

BIRMINGHAM NATURAL-HISTORY ASSOCIATION.—The first general excursion of the members, for the purpose of investigating and collecting some of the highly interesting natural productions of the district of Sutton Park, took place on Tuesday last, occupying the whole day. We remember one topographer who describes the township of Sutton as being a "barren chase," and the town itself as situated in the midst of it; but most assuredly it is far from barren to the naturalist. Here may be revel to his heart's delight in some of Nature's choicest treasures. The air, the land and the water, all teem with a glorious fruitfulness, and no wonder. Miles on miles exist of the richest bog-soil, black with

the very essence of future growth and vitality. The pools and ponds breed and shelter their untold millions of living entities—all rapturously enjoying their day of life, revelling in the genial rays of the summer sun, and bearing their living humble testimony to the glory and success of creative wisdom and power. The air also affords a rich harvest to the entomologist, who can boast of here meeting with some of his choicest treasures. A most interesting operation was witnessed by many of the members in connection with the beetle known as *Necrophorus mortuorum*, or burying beetle. In this instance a herd had collected, and were busy in burying a young rabbit, when they were themselves suddenly captured, and their operations suspended by the entomologists. Amongst the insects captured were *Argynnis Selene*, *Nemeophila plantaginis* and *Proeris Statice*, with a great number of other species. At the last meeting of the Association a beautiful specimen of the scarce insect *Acronycta Alni* was shown, as having been taken at Edgbaston, a few days ago.—*Abridged from the 'Birmingham Daily Post' of June 14.*

OBSERVATIONS ON THE GENUS ORNIX.

BY DR. WOCKE, OF BRESLAU.

[Most of our readers have heard of Dr. Wocke; for have we not in the genus *Coleophora* that conspicuous species *Wockella*? In our recent tour on the Continent we had an opportunity of seeing, in the collections of several friends, indisputable proofs of the unwearied zeal of Dr. Wocke in pursuit of the Micros; and through the kindness of Senator von Heyden, we received a copy of the 'Bericht des Lepidopterologischen Tauschvereins' for 1857, in which we find some critical remarks on the

genera *Micropteryx* and *Ornix* from the pen of Dr. Wocke; some of his observations on the latter genus we proceed to lay before our readers.]

Ornix Avellanella. From this species, which is abundant on hazel-bushes, probably throughout Germany, I am not at present able to separate the specimens from hornbeam (*Carpinus Betulus*). Yet they seem rather narrower, with longer wings; and the tuft of the head, as well as the general appearance of the anterior wings, especially along the inner margin, have a more ochreous tint, but in the markings of the wings and palpi I can detect no difference.

Anglicella is the most abundant species round Breslau, to be met with everywhere on sloe-bushes and hawthorn-hedges at the beginning of May and end of July. *Finitimella* is much scarcer, and I have only twice met with fine specimens of it; hitherto I have bred neither of these species.

Anguliferella lives probably exclusively on the leaves of pear trees, at least I have hitherto only bred it from such food. The species is found in gardens near Breslau, in May and at the end of July and beginning of August.

Torquillella, which is easily recognised by its size, the dark colour of the anterior wings, and the unspotted white palpi, I have only bred from sloe-leaves; it seems to occur, though not abundantly, throughout Silesia, except indeed on the higher mountains, where it is replaced by *Scoticella*, which follows its food-plant, *Sorbus aucuparia*, up to the crest of the Riesengebirge.

Betulae and *Scutulatella* both feed on birch, and are nearly equally abundant in the neighbourhood of Breslau.

[Our readers will perceive that these notes contain much information. We have often had our attention called to the hornbeam species, and enquiries have

been repeatedly made, Is it distinct from *Avellanella*? We trust that those who have opportunities of collecting the larvæ will, by breeding the hornbeam insect in plenty, set this debated point at rest. The food of *Anguliferella* is here made known to us as pear-leaves, and we trust this announcement will enable some of our readers at once to add that species to our British lists. *Scutulatella* had never before been bred, and it is therefore interesting to learn that it is a birch-feeder; our own specimens of the insect were taken at Dartford Heath.]

PIERIS DAPLIDICE.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I have recently met with a specimen of *P. Daplidice*, under circumstances which led me to think that such "good things" are not always so scarce as they are generally supposed to be. I was at Reading, and, as is my custom, seeing a bird-stuffer's shop, I went in and enquired if they had any British insects for sale. "Only a few common butterflies," was the reply, and I was shown a couple of cases filled with indifferent specimens of *Vanessa Io*, *V. Atalanta*, *Argynnis Paphia* and still commoner insects. But amongst the rest was a single white, which I at once suspected to be *Daplidice*, although I was not quite certain. I was told that it was the "female of the Orange Tip," that it was taken last year on the outskirts of the town, and that, like the rest of the insects in the case, it was to be sold for fourpence! The "female of the Orange Tip" turns out to be a genuine *Daplidice*, and there can be no reasonable doubt that it is, as I was assured, a *bona fide* British specimen. Who knows but that if the common whites were more carefully looked after, their aristocratic cousin, erewhile

of Bath, would more frequently find a place in our cabinets?

I am, Sir,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE KEARLEY.

Walthamstow, June 17.

ENTOMOLOGY IN AMERICA.

(Concluded from p. 95.)

I have just finished the study of a species, about which I wish to write to you specially. I will give you briefly the larval history of the species. The larva mines the leaves of *Nyssa multiflora* in numbers that are perfectly incredible. My description of the larva is as follows:—

"Subcylindrical, flattened above and beneath, with the segments rounded and projecting laterally; a dorsal plate on the first segment; no legs or pro-legs, but a tubercle on the ventral surface of the twelfth ring, with a circle of hooks. Head broad, circular, flattened, thin and retractile. Head dark brown, shield brownish; body very pale green, with dark atoms along the dorsum; ventral surface with a line of double black spots. After the last moulting the shield becomes black, with a black vascular line."

In the mine of the larva the entire parenchyma of the leaf is devoured, leaving the upper and lower epidermis almost transparent. When it prepares for pupation the larva weaves an oval cocoon within the mine, and when the upper and lower membranes are well carpeted within its limits, they are cut in an oval form and the cocoon permitted to fall to the earth. The two ends of the cocoon are still open, and the larva attaches it by little cables of silk to surrounding objects on the ground, to prevent the rains of fall and spring from carrying it away. The pupa is thrust

from the cocoon at maturity, the case being extremely thin and delicate.

The head of the imago is almost globose, without ocelli, covered with closely appressed scales; front somewhat produced in the middle at the base of the tongue. No maxillary palpi; labial palpi separated, slender, curving on the sides and ascending to about the middle of the front. Antennæ rather thick, but filiform, short, somewhat more than *one half* as long as the anterior wings. * * *

If I have not mistaken the structural affinities of this species, it belongs to a genus not described in your 'Insecta Britannica,' and if none has been formed for its reception I propose to describe it under the name of *Diacopia*.

BRECKENRIDGE CLEMENS.

[The insect in question is undoubtedly an *Antispila*, a genus which has been formed since the publication of the 'Insecta Britannica' for the reception of two species then placed in the genus *Elachista*.

Our Micro-Lepidopterological readers will observe with pleasure the accuracy of Dr. Clemens' observations and the correctness of his descriptions. His description of the structure of the imago, his description of the larva, and his observations on its habits, are either of them separately sufficient to identify the insect as a true *Antispila*.

The plant *Nyssa multiflora* belongs to the same natural order as the Dogwood, which is the food of our two British species of the genus (*Pfeifferella* and *Treitschkiella*).

We trust Dr. Clemens will soon send us a few more observations of similar interest.]

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Completion of the 'Manual.'

On the 1st of July will be published, price 3d., No. 33 of

A MANUAL of BRITISH BUTTERFLIES and MOTHS. By H. T. STANTON.

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BY S. J. WILKINSON.

This work forms one 8vo volume, uniform with the series of the 'Insecta Britannica,' and contains descriptions of all the British species of Tortricina, with observations on their habits and localities.

London: John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster Row.

Printed and published by EDWARD NEWMAN, Printer, of No. 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Without, London, in the County of Middlesex.—Saturday, June 25, 1859.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 144.]

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]



Apamea Ophiogramma. (See p. 107.)

‘THE MANUAL.’

‘The Manual of British Butterflies and Moths’ is now completed.

Part 33, concluding the work, was published on the 1st instant, and the second volume may now be had, in cloth, uniform with the first volume, for the sum of five shillings and sixpence. The entire work therefore will cost the purchaser ten shillings.

‘The Manual’ contains descriptions of all the British Lepidoptera known up to the time when it was written. Several new species have been discovered *during the progress* of the work, and several other new species will be met with during the next three months. An Appendix *might* have been written to include the first-named novelties, but it was deemed more advisable not to encumber the work with the additional species in an Appendix, more especially as by no contrivance could we prevent the capture of new species after

the volume had been brought to a close.

Nay, we rather apprehend that the ‘Manual’ will tend to render itself incomplete, as, by increasing the number of students of the Lepidoptera, it must facilitate the discovery of new species.

Our own experience of appendicular notes is decidedly against them, as we believe, nine times in ten, they are *overlooked* by the reader.

We are aware that a large number of our readers have had their copies of the ‘Manual’ interleaved, and no doubt they will insert on the blank pages the notices of the new species which will appear from time to time in the ‘Annual’ or in our own pages.

Little more than three years have elapsed since the appearance of the first number of the ‘Manual,’ and though we are aware that to the natural impatience of youth its progress has at times appeared tedious, yet we fancy the successive numbers have appeared nearly as fast as a thorough student

could master them, and for those who have merely looked at the pictures we have but little sympathy.

We have already received an abundant supply of suggestions as to what we had better take in hand now that we are relieved from the incubus of the 'Manual.' But at present we believe that we have plenty of occupation cut out for us in working more assiduously than ever at the 'Natural History of the Tineina.' When a monthly periodical is in hand, its calls are so incessant and so imperative that many matters otherwise pressing are compelled to wait for a period of greater leisure, and we have certainly felt that during the last two or three years our European collection of Tineina, though rapidly increasing, has been as rapidly getting into disorder.

We could ourselves speak feelingly of the disordered condition of the collection of Dr. Herrich-Schäffer, which we endeavoured to excuse by saying that authors rarely had time to keep their collections in order, but in the very act of saying so it struck us that we were pronouncing our own condemnation. The excessively tidy and instructive condition in which we found the collections of Messrs. Mühlig and Schmid made us regret that we had not something similar at home.

W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

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 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having removed from Saville Row, Mile End, my address is now—H. T. TAVERNER, 1, Adelaide Place, Stepney Green, Mile End Road, E.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of

H. T. T. — *A. Caja* remains in the pupa state about three weeks. The small

moth, clothed in scarlet and silver, which twiddles its antennæ on the trunks of lime trees is *Chrysoclista Linneella*.

M. H.—Your larvæ and pupæ in the stem of sallow are probably *Sphécia bembeciformis*.

W. D., WANDSWORTH.—Your *Nola* is probably *Strigula*.

APAMEA OPHIOGRAMMA.

THOSE sugaring the trunks of willows in marshy localities will be likely to meet with the insect we have figured this week. The species seems not to be rare where it occurs, but is apt to be overlooked, being frequently mistaken by incipients for a variety of *Apamea oculea*. The neat white edging of the dark portion of the wing renders *Ophiogramma* a more conspicuous insect than the brightest specimen of *Oculea*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Melitæa Cinxia.—I took this butterfly on the 6th and 7th inst., in the locality near Folkestone, mentioned in the 'Intelligencer' for 1858, p. 86.—REV. H. GORE, *Rusper Rectory, Sussex*; June 27.

Bankia Bankiana.—I have again met with this lovely little Noctua, and shall be glad to hear from any one in want of it. *Notodonta bicolora* has also been taken, but I am not at present able to offer it for distribution.—E. BIRCHALL, of *Dublin*; *Killarney*, June 20.

Hepialus Velleda.—I found, on the 21st instant, a female of this species, just emerged from the pupa. I put her into a box, with a bit of gauze over to keep her in; and when they were flying at

night, I put the box upon the ground amongst the fern, and the males came a great deal faster than I could take them; in fact, I had no less than five and six in my net at once. Their flight is of very short duration, being little over half an hour.—M. HILL, *Little Eaton, near Derby*; June 26.

Notodonta dromedarius.—On the 16th instant, as I was walking through Wharncliffe Wood, I beat down from an oak tree a pair of this species, male and female; they were within a foot of each other, and no doubt they had been in cop. the night before. I pinned the male, and of course put the female into a pill-box: the next morning I found that she had laid 129 eggs, the second night 57, the third 34, the fourth and last 17. What a lot from one female! it would be a sight for her if she could but live to see them all grown up! *Cymatophora fluctuosa* appears to be rare this year; I have only heard of two specimens being captured. Nothing worth recording has appeared at the sugar as yet.—JAMES BATTY, 133, *South St., Park, Sheffield*; June 21.

Acronycta Alni.—On the 28th of May, while out mothing, I had the pleasure of taking a splendid specimen of this species, also several other good insects: *Alni* was on the bole of an ash tree. I have also successfully fed the caterpillars of *Leucographa* from eggs, which I obtained in the spring; out of seventy eggs, I think, about forty-five have entered the chrysalis state, which I hope will come out perfect insects next spring.—JOSEPH WRAGG, 7, *Spring Gardens, Doncaster*; June 25.

Nepticula Quinquella.—This insect has re-appeared in profusion on the Bishop's Palings, near Addington, and will probably continue on the wing for ten days at least.—H. T. STANTON; June 28.

Captures near Liverpool.—During the last three months myself and friends, Messrs. Johnson and Stephenson have

collected on the Wallasey Sand Hills upwards of 300 larvæ of *D. Fascelina* (100 of which have emerged from the chrysalis state), 230 larvæ of *L. Quercus*, and thirty-six larvæ of *L. Trifolii*; two perfect insects of *L. Litoralis*, nineteen of *M. Albicollis* and ten of *C. Porcellus*. I intend offering for exchange, through the medium of the 'Intelligencer,' some of the above-mentioned, with a number of others I am now collecting, about August next.—T. GALLIERS, 9, *Breton Street, Park Road, Liverpool*; June 23.

Captures at the Bridge of Allan.—Amongst a host of common Lepidoptera, I captured last week,—

- P. Alsus* (3),
- C. Porcellus* (2),
- N. Plantaginis* (1),
- A. Myrtilli* (4),
- P. Ænea* (2),
- L. Comma* (5),
- P. Pulchrina* (1),
- P. Festuæ* (1),
- „ *Chrysitis* (1),
- P. Cytisaria* (4),
- E. Cingularis* (1),
- X. Zoegana* (1).

I notice a much later season of the year is given in the 'Manual' for the flight of *Plusia Festuæ*. I think, however, that frequently when the autumn in Scotland is cold and wet, many species which would in England assume the imago state in September or October do not make their appearance until the ensuing season. As a proof of this I may state that I have seen frequently and captured *Vanessa Atalanta* early in June, in the Island of Skye, and as the insects were in fine plumage, to all appearance newly out of the pupæ, I could only account for their appearance at that season of the year in the way before mentioned.—JAMES WINGATE, *Dunallan Cottage, Bridge of Allan*; June 20.

COLEOPTERA.

Coleoptera near Liverpool.—I have

taken the following Coleoptera on the Wallasey Sand Hills:—about 200 good specimens of each of

Necrophorus vespillo and
„ *humator*,
and about from thirty to fifty each of the following:—

- Adimonia halensis*,
- Cneorhinus geminatus*,
- Hister merdarius*,
- Silpha rugosa*,
- Creophilus maxillosus*,
- Phyllopertha horticola*,
- Anomala Frischii*,
- Timarcha lævigata*,
- Necrodes litoralis*,
- Cicindela hybrida*,
- „ *campestris*.

—T. GALLIERS, 9, *Breton Street, Park Road, Liverpool*; June 23.

Captures at Eye.—The following are a few among a multitude of my captures in this locality: they were mostly taken during last month.

- Badister bipustulatus*,
- Elaphrus cupreus*,
- Leistus spinibarbis*,
- Carabus monilis*,
- Bradytus apicarius*,
- **Bembidion articulatum*,
- * „ *lambros*,
- „ *4-guttatum*,
- „ *4-maculatum*,
- Stenus cicindeloides*,
- Catops truncatus*?
- Attagenus Pello*,
- Byrrhus pilula*,
- Elatridæ* (a great many species),
- Hoplia argentea*,
- **Malachius æneus*,
- „ *cquestris*,
- Anaspis melanopa*,
- „ *4-notata*,
- **Otiorhynchus picipes*,
- Phytonomus arator*,
- „ *nigrirostris*,
- Balaninus Nucum*,
- Ombus brunnipes*,
- Sitona hispidula*,

- **Sitona lineata*,
 „ *regensteiniensis*,
Apion miniatum,
 * „ *frumentarium*,
 „ *vorax*,
 **Cionus Scrophulariæ*,
 „ *Thapsi*?
 **Phædon fastuosa*,
 * „ *Betulæ*,
 * „ *polygoni*,
 * „ *marginella*,
Byturus tomentosus,
Clytus arietis,
Coccinellidæ (various).

Those marked with an asterisk are in duplicate, and I shall be happy to send relaxed specimens to any one willing to pay the postage.—R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Eye, Suffolk*; June 24.

Lixus angustatus.—I took two of these fine insects, on the 20th inst., from thistles, in St. Leonard's Forest, near here; one was quite a recent specimeu, and was completely enveloped in the beautiful yellow powder which colours the insect; but, what with my rough handling, what with the insect's being rolled about in the box in which it was brought home, and what with my foolishly killing it in hot water, he and his compauion are now a respectable browu. If I take others, as I hope I shall, in the autumn, I shall try the method recommended by the Rev. Mr. Dawson ('Zoologist,' 2554), and bring them home in quills.—REV. H. GORE, *Rusper Rectory, Sussex*; June 27.

OBSERVATIONS.

Larva of Tinea Merdella.—I now send you the account of my breeding *T. Merdella*, which I promised in my last. The specimen you kindly named for me in the winter was taken, as I told you, in my school-desk, on the 18th of June, 1858. As I was turning out this desk, on the 24th of February, of this year, I found at

the bottom of it, under a lot of papers, a woollen pen-wiper, which one of my daughters had given me on my birthday, with a very gay butterfly worked on one side of it, but chiefly composed of grey cloth. As I generally use the inside of my coat-tail to wipe my pen upon, this pen-wiper had been neglected, and indeed forgotten, but I soon perceived that this very circumstance had made it an object of peculiar attention to some of my little friends, whose *frass* and woollen cases were soon brought to light. Of course *Merdella's* appearance last year in the same desk flashed upon my mind in a moment, and I at once concluded that these were *Merdella* larvæ. I searched the whole desk, but found that the pen-wiper contained all that was mortal of my discovery, and I took it and put it, as it was, in a jam-pot, and covered it with a piece of glass. A few days afterwards I ventured to cut open one of the cases (there were about five in all), and as I was thus engaged at one end out at the other crept a larva, of which the following is the description:—Legs sixteen; head shining, brownish black; first segment ditto, divided down the middle by a straight white band; body entirely white, with a few white hairs. On the 4th of June I had the pleasure of seeing, on the top of the pen-wiper, a perfect imago, reposing in silken freshness, which I succeeded in setting to my satisfaction. I have not yet seen another, but I live in hopes. Perceiving that the green German wool, which formed the ground on which the butterfly was worked, and that gorgeous and unnatural representation itself, were alike untouched by *Merdella*, who, you know, is very quakerish in her costume (and for that reason perhaps her larvæ preferred the grey cloth, showing thus early their peculiar taste), when I removed the pen-wiper I substituted for it some scraps of grey cloth, of precisely the same pattern and fabric, and covered it with papers, as before; and this I have

examined once or twice since, but very cautiously, as a boy goes up to a nest from which he has already abstracted one batch of eggs; but I fear the old birds are not to be so taken in, for I have seen no frass or woollen cases since.—REV. E. HORTON, *Wick, Worcester*; June 21.

Depressaria Culcitella.—I have found the larva of this species, which seemed to interest you so much when here; it feeds in the united terminal leaves of *Stachys recta* and of another plant, the name of which is not yet perfectly ascertained. I found these larvæ on the 15th and 17th of May; they changed to pupæ in a cocoon at the end of May, and the perfect insects appeared the 11th and 13th of June. It only occurs singly, but I hope to be able to send it you next spring: the precise localities are the Winzerer Berg and the hill above the Tegernheimer Keller, just where you collected along with Dr. Herrich-Schäffer and my son Ernst.—FRIEDRICH HOFMANN, *Ratisbon*; June 21.

Gelechia pictella.—The larvæ found by Mr. Scott (Intel. No. 140, p. 77) have produced this species. It seems very sluggish in the perfect state, and when disturbed gives a spring, and then lies on its back on the sand, as if dead.—H. T. STAINTON; June 28.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange.—I should be glad to exchange pupæ of *M. Satellitia*, *C. Viminalis*, *X. Citrigo*, three of *O. Lata* and two of *O. Munda*, for any of the following in the larva, pupa or imago state, but I should prefer the two former:—

- G. Quercifolia,
- P. Statiees,
- S. Fuciformis,
- „ Bonbyliformis,
- P. Dietæa,
- „ Monacha,

- A. Triplasia,
- A. Urticæ,
- O. Lusoria,
- N. Zonaria.

—W. CULVERWELL, *The Gardens, Thorp Perron, Bedale, Yorkshire*; June 22.

Anthrocera Trifolii.—Mr. R. J. Bowerman begs to say that he has a few specimens of this insect, caught by him at Axminster, Devon. These he is most ready to exchange for any of the Clearwings, *Sphecicæ* or *Trochilia*, for the Wood Leopard (*Zeuzera*), the Small Elephant (*Chærocampa Porcellus*), any of the Prominents (*Notodonta*, &c.), or for *Polyommatus Alsus* or *Thecla Betulæ* or *Pruni*. His address is Mr. R. J. BOWERMAN, *Uffculme, near Collumpton, Devon*.

Diaphora Mendica.—Having taken four females of this species, which have laid eggs, I have larvæ to spare, which I shall be glad to send to any gentleman who may be in want of them.—D. ROBINSON, *New Road, Rastrick, near Huddersfield*; June 25.

A Mistake: no Lathonias in Duplicate.—I am very sorry that, by some inaccuracy, either by myself or the printer, No. 35 is inserted instead of No. 37 in my list of "Surplus Specimens," in last week's 'Intelligencer;' as I have been perfectly inundated by boxes and letters soliciting that species, it will cause much disappointment to many of my correspondents. I also find No. 69 mentioned, which, to the best of my remembrance, I do not think I sent at all. I hope you will insert this correction, as answering applicants individually would be a perfectly Herculean task, for their name is Legion. I should have thought that parties would have seen that it was a mistake, as I stated that the species I had to offer were but common, which they must have known *Lathonia* not to be; if the fault lies with me for writing No. 35 I beg to apologise to those who have sent for that insect, for, instead

of having it a surplus, it is a great desideratum to me. I think, in future, it would be the best way to give the names of species instead of numbers, as one is not so liable to make mistakes with names as with figures.—J. S. DELL, 126, Navy Row, Morice Town, Devonport; June 27.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus DEPRESSARIA.

Our readers will, we hope, excuse our seeming importunity on the subject of this genus, but up to the present time we have received but very few larvæ this year, and our wants among the *Depressaria* are neither few nor far between.

The following is a list of the larvæ of this genus, already known, which we shall be glad to receive:—

Alstræmeriana,
Capreolella,
Carduella,
Ciliella,
*Cnicella,
Conterminella,
*Culcitella,
*Dictamnella,
Douglasella,
*Ferulæ,
*Heydenii,
*Laterella,
Libanotidella,
*Miserella,
Ocellana,
*Petasitis,
Pimpinellæ,
Pulcherrimella,
Purpurea,
*Retiferella,
Rotundella,
*Schmidtella,
Subpropinquella,
*Thapsiella,
*Veneficella.

Of the following species the larvæ have not yet been detected:—

*Adspersella,
Badiella,
*Cervicella,
Ciniffonella,
*Corticinella,
Granulosella,
*Hepatariella,
*Hirtipalpis,
*Impurella,
*Incarnatella,
*Lætella,
*Ledereri,
*Lutosella,
*Olerella,
Pallorella,
Pastinacella,
*Putridella,
*Rhodochrella,
*Tenebricosa,
Ultimella,
Yeatiava.

Alstræmeriana. The larva of this species is now feeding on hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), and we have the promise of it from Mr. Harding, who first discovered it some years ago.

Capreolella. The greenish larva of this species reminds one much of the larva of *Applana*. Mr. Douglas once found it at Mickleham, June 26th, feeding on the radical pinnate leaves of *Pimpinella saxifraga*.

Carduella. The larva of this species is grey-green with a dark head; it was found by Mr. Boyd on the Downs at Lynmouth, July 26th, feeding on the under side of the leaves of a species of thistle.

Ciliella. Nothing has transpired respecting the larva of this species since 1851. In that year Mr. Allen Hill wrote as follows in the 'Zoologist':—"I have been breeding this from larvæ, which I took from *Angelica sylvestris*, and, rather to my surprise, feeding on both the leaf and the umbel, convoluting a portion of the side of the former for a retreat, and

* The species marked thus are not yet known to inhabit Great Britain.

* Marked thus have not yet been met with in Great Britain.

burying itself in triturated flowers of the latter for the same purpose. The leaf-feeders, however, appeared in the beginning of July, whereas the denizens of the umbels were not found until the end of the month, and necessarily so, as the plant was not sooner in blossom. I should observe that, although the *Angelica* grows profusely here, yet the locality wherein I found the insect was confined to a radius of about a quarter of a mile, nor could I meet with one specimen elsewhere. Of all the larvæ I know this is by far the most agile; you can scarcely touch his abode before he rushes out of it at railway speed. In fact, I at first lost many owing to this circumstance, and fancied the leaves had been empty, but on discovering my error I resorted to the plan of holding my net under the spray or flower before I began to search it, and I soon found the good effect of this mode, as they generally dropped into the net, and I had them safe. It is a pretty, very slender, rather bright green caterpillar, with darker dusky stripes down the back and sides, and its tubercles are not blackened.

**Cnicella*. This larva feeds in the tops of *Eryngium campestre* about the middle of May; so the search for it must be postponed till next year.

Conterminella. This larva feeds also in May, in the terminal shoots of osiers.

**Culcitella*. We have noticed this larva in another column to-day; it feeds in May on *Stachys recta*.

**Dictamnella*. The larva feeds at the end of May and beginning of June on *Dictamnus albus*.

Douglasella. This larva feeds on one of the *Umbelliferae*, in June; but at present no more definite information can be given.

**Ferula*. The larva of this Sicilian species feeds in April on the leaves of *Ferula communis*.

**Heydenii*. Last year Professor Zeller visited the Styrian Alps, and discovered the larva of this alpine species. "A *De-*

pressaria larva was abundant on a white *Umbellifer*. I collected a great number, though in unfavourable weather. When I returned to Vienna the plant was decayed and the larvæ dead; but four had attained the pupa state, and from these I bred two specimens of *D. Heydenii*."

**Laterella*. The larva of this species feeds on the leaves of the blue corn-flower (*Centaurea Cyanus*), at the beginning of June. We cannot help fancying it would be readily found in this country, if its food-plant were searched at the proper time.

Libanotidella. This feeds on the leaves of *Athamanta Libanotis* at the beginning of June. We have twice received the larvæ from abroad, but on each occasion the food had "gone squash" *in transitu*.

H. T. STAINTON.

June 25, 1859.

(To be continued.)

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 145.]

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

CENTENARIES.

A CONSIDERABLE portion of the Metropolis has lately been celebrating the Centenary of the death of a Musician. Are no Centenarian honours to be paid to the manes of Linnæus? Carl von Linné was a greater benefactor to Zoology than Handel was to musical science, and surely it is but fitting that the world, the unzoological world, should be informed by some public demonstration that Science is grateful to Linnæus.

One of the greatest compliments that can be paid to a departed writer is the careful study of his works, so as to discover the hidden meaning of much that is primarily indistinct and obscure. The recorded observations of good observers a hundred or fifty years ago are as worthy of careful attention as those of our worthy friends, Messrs. Scott, Wilkinson, &c., at the present day. In all authors on Entomology you may find passages which have remained obscure and neglected almost from the date when they were penned to our own time.

We will quote a case in point, just to illustrate our meaning, though our quotation is from Fabricius, not from Linnæus.

In the third volume of the 'Entomologia Systematica,' at p. 286, we read the following description of *Pyralis Rutana*:—"Alis depressis fuscis; lineolis transversis numerosis albis, thorace denticulis duobus dorsalibus.

"Habitat in Galliæ Ruta, cujus folia contorquet.

"Statura et magnitudo *P. applana*. Caput et thorax fusca, immaculata. Thorax fasciculis duobus erectis, compressis pilorum. Alæ depressæ, fuscæ, lineolis abbreviatis, numerosissimis, tenuissimis, transversis albis. Præterea puncta duo parva, elevata, approximata, atra in medio."

"Form and size of *Applana*," "wings depressed brown," "with two black spots in the middle." Clearly we have here a *Depressaria*. But who ever heard of *Depressaria Rutana*? Is then the species extinct? "It twists up the leaves of rue, in France."

Fabricius was, then, acquainted with the habits of the larva. Rue (*Ruta graveolens*) is an old-fashioned plant of very powerful odour, to be found in most gardens in this country; in the South of Europe it grows wild, and there search should be made for the larva of *Depressaria Rutana*.

We presume it is *Ruta graveolens* to which Fabricius alluded, for *Ruta*

montana, a Spanish species, "is so acrid that it blisters the hands of those who gather it, through three pairs of gloves," and it is difficult to imagine that a *Depressaria* larva would thrive on such very strong food.

Our readers will next wish to know whether any *Depressaria* is known which has brown wings, reticulated with white. Zeller has described, in the ninth volume of the 'Linnæa Entomologica,' a *Depressaria Retiferella*, a variety of which, he says, has the "Vorderflügel reichlich mit sehr feinen, hellgrauen, etwas ineinander fließenden Querstrichelchen bestreut, die der Fläche ein netzartiges Ansehen geben." "The anterior wings with numerous, very slender, pale grey transverse streaks running into one another, and giving the disc a reticulated appearance." Here, then, in *Retiferella*, we recognise the long-lost Fabrician *Rutana*; the specimens described by Zeller were taken by Herr Mann, at Leghorn, on the 26th of May, and were consequently hibernated specimens. Mr. Doubleday possesses a specimen of the same insect, which he received from M. Guenée, under the name of *Silenella*; and when we were at Zurich, Professor Frey very kindly gave us a brightly marked specimen, which he had received, without a name, from M. Millière, of Lyons.

Dr. Staudinger, when in the South of Spain, fortunately bred the insect from a plant closely allied to *Ruta*, and thus furnished the clue which has

led to the restoration of the Fabrician name, — a name which has remained unused from 1794 to 1859, a period of considerably more than half a century.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

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At York, of R. Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. H.—For an account of the Gordiaceæ, or intestinal worms, see 'Intelligencer,' vol. v. p. 47.

W. W., OUNDLE.—*Ditaria* of Donovan is *Bajularia*, Man. ii. 36. *Albicillata*, you will find under that name, Id. p. 99. Your *Blue* is probably only a variety of the female *Alexis*.

J. T.—Your larvæ of *Pericallia Syringaria* will be full fed in May, 1860, provided you can keep them alive through the winter.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Colias Hyale.—My son captured, about the 18th of last month, when in search of *Aporia Cratægi*, a fine female specimen of *C. Hyale*. *S. Dealbaria* and *E. Ruscula* have been taken rather freely.—J. TYRER, *Melville Hospital, Chatham; July 2*.

Colias Edusa.—I beg to inform you that I captured a Clouded Yellow (*Colias Edusa*) yesterday: it was sipping nectar from the blossom of a clover plant on our railway-bank at Fimber. The species was numerous on this line of railway last year, but later.—R. MORTIMER, *Fimber, Malton; June 28*.

Colias Edusa.—I took a male on the 30th of June, and a female on the 1st of this month. I have also taken *Melitæa Cinxia*, *Artemis* and *Athalia*, *Argynnis Paphia* and *Aglaia*, *Aporia Cratægi*, and many others that are not worth troubling you to mention; I have most of these in duplicate, which I shall offer later in the season.—J. C. BRYANT, *Lipson Terrace, Plymouth; July 1*.

Spilodes Palealis.—While at Brighton, on the 15th of June, I swept a specimen of *Spilodes Palealis*, also *Philea Irrorella*,

Homæosoma Sinuella, *Coleophora Onosmella*, &c.—HENRY ARIS, 7, *Corporation Row, Clerkenwell, E.C.; July 2*.

Lithocolletis Scopariella.—This local species has appeared in plenty on the railway bank here, among the broom bushes; I took a specimen accidentally, and on ascertaining its value at once searched for more, but found that, though common, the late thunder-storms had seriously damaged it, and the specimens were not worth setting. I hope that myself or some one may discover the larva before next season.—R. M'LACHLAN, *Forest Hill; July 4*.

Captures near Oundle.—Having some pupils in want of an amusement for their leisure hours, I suggested Entomology, which has been taken up with some degree of spirit. As I observed, in a late number of the 'Intelligencer,' a complaint that captures were not being reported as they ought to be, are any of the following worth recording? I have added the dates of capture of the first of each sort.

- May 13. *A. Lucina* (abundant).
- " *A. Euphrosyne* (do.)
- " 14. *S. Paniscus* (do.)
- " 16. *T. Rubi* (1).
- June 7. *C. Elpenor* (3).
- " 10. " *Porcellus* (7).
- " 16. *Scoria Dealbata* (3).
- " 22. *T. Pruni* (abundant).
- " 23. *L. Sinapis* (2).
- " 24. *A. Galathea* (abundant).
- " 25. *P. Arion* (several).
- " *A. Selene* (2).
- " 27. *Scotosia Undulata*.

Of larvæ they have taken—

- O. Potatoria* (abundant).
- " *Gonostigma* (about 30).
- I. Quercus* (several).
- T. Cratægi* (1).
- T. Pruni* (3).
- " *Betulæ* (4).
- G. Quercifolia* (4).

—REV. W. WHAILL, *Thurning Rectory, near Oundle; June 29*.

Captures near Perth.—I take the liberty of sending you a list of my first month's recordable captures, on Braes of Gowrie, near Killspindie.

Polyommatus Alsus. Very abundant.

„ *Artaxerxes.* Two specimens asleep on marsh plants.

Melitæa Artemis. Abundant in a moist part of a moor.

Leucophasia Sinapis. Visiting marsh plants in a wood.—WILLIAM STEWART, 227, High Street, Perth; June 28.

OBSERVATIONS.

Lozopera Francillana.—I am now breeding this insect from larvæ feeding in stems of wild carrot. I have also bred a few specimens of the beautiful *A. Æneæa*; the larva is excessively subject to ichneumonism.—D. T. B.

Depressaria Larvæ.—I see you ignore my having bred *D. Ciliella* from the larva I sent you from Probus last year; but I think there is no doubt about them, the only difficulty being my having bred *D. Yeatiana* from a larva taken at the same time and place, which I had put aside as slightly different.—T. BOYD, 17, Clapton Square; July 4.

Gelechia pictella bred.—The larvæ mentioned in the 'Intelligencer,' No. 140, p. 77, has produced this species, both Mr. Stainton and myself having bred it: mine, of course, all came out during my absence from home; and there they lay, stiffened creatures, alongside one or two of the Volunteer Rifle Corps, *alias* ichneumonism.—JOHN SCOTT, Southfield Villas, Middlesbro'-on-Tees; June 28.

Gelechia Brizella bred.—When at Brighton, at the latter end of last year, I collected a few heads of *Statice*, in which were larvæ of what I suspected would produce this species; and I have now the satisfaction of recording that the above insect is making its appearance in my breeding-cages.—IBID.

Humble Bee's Nest wanted.—I should be much obliged to any gentleman who would send me a nest (full of larvæ, &c.), of any of our humble bees, except *Bombus muscorum*. I shall be willing to pay any expenses incurred in transmitting the nest.—JOHN LUBBOCK, High Elms, Farnborough, Kent; July 4.

EXCHANGE.

Polyommatus Arion.—I beg to inform those who have written to me about this species, and to whom I have not as yet returned an answer, that I have sent away and promised all my specimens in duplicate, and therefore am not able to comply with their request by sending specimens to them, but hope to write to them at some future time.—W. H. COMYNS, Wolseley Villa, Cheltenham; June 29.

Eriogaster Lanestris.—Does any one want larvæ of *E. Lanestris*? If so, send box with return postage.—J. HAWLEY, 55, Hall Gate, Doucaster.

Leucaia Pudorina.—I have fine specimens of this insect to spare, and shall be most happy to exchange them for any of the following, as numbered in the 'Manual':—20, 42, 44, 50, 59, 62, 75, 86, 88, 90, 100, 101, 102, 119, 124, 125, 140, 155, 168, 182, 206, 220, 221, 223, 238, 241, 255, 311, 314, 321, 344, 379, 382, 386, 401, 428, 435, 445, 446, 450, 470, 482, 489, &c.—W. PREST, 7, Castle-gate, York; June 28.

Micra Ostrina.—The enquiries I have had about *Micra Ostrina* and *Parva* are so numerous, I shall feel much obliged if you will permit me to give an answer through the 'Intelligencer.' I am sorry to say we have met with no trace of either this season, although we have searched most carefully for the last month, and I believe that Mr. Metcalf has been equally unsuccessful. *Luctuosa* has been abundant, and if any of my former correspondents or others wish for fresh specimens,

I shall be happy to give them as long as my stock lasts. — HENRY WADE BATTERSBY, *Oakfield, Torquay*; July 1.

Arctia Villica.—My stock of the larvæ of this insect is now quite exhausted, and I beg that those gentlemen whose letters I have not answered will understand either that their offers are unacceptable, or that I had not sufficient larvæ to meet the demand. If any one can supply me with specimens either of *P. Arion* or *Adonis*, I shall be glad to give *P. Corydon* or *Agestis* in exchange. Any one in want of *A. Euphrosyne* can have it as long as my stock lasts by sending a box and stamps for its return, or if the box should contain specimens of *Procris Statice* or *Anthrocera Lonicerae* I will pay postage one way. — J. B. CRAUFURD, *Park House, Cotham, near Bristol*; July 2.

THE ACCENTUATED LIST.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I think it would be useful to many, if the Entomological Societies of Oxford and Cambridge would agree on the pronunciation of all names omitted in the 'Accentuated List,' and publish them in the 'Intelligencer,' as they would not take up much room, and those who have this edition might then insert them for themselves.

I remain,

Yours truly,

W. J. SAUNDER.

Christchurch, Oxford;

June 25, 1859.

ANTS' NESTS AND THE BEETLES THEREIN.

(*Transmitted by the Euphonic and Sympathetic Telegraph.*)

The Snuggery,

May 20, 1999.

My dear Powerson,—I regret that I gave you the trouble to seek for specimens of ants, for, since the warm weather came in, they are abundant in this neighbourhood, and, being but a novice in Hymenoptera, I did not consider that when I wrote they had not begun to come out from their winter quarters. You know I am not given to flatter, yet I must say I do not know your equal in the ancient literature of Entomology, you having the past history of our Science so completely by heart, that, in fact, you may be said to live in the past, and to be entirely behind the present age. It is no compliment, therefore, to say, you stand entirely alone, and long may you keep the honour to yourself. The world will never know the obligation it is under to you, and your profundity will pardon me if I do not quite agree with your conclusions.

A CALENDAR OF LEPIDOPTERA.

JULY.

Larvæ.—1, 3, 4, 6, 8—10, 25, 26, 28—31, 42, 46, 58, 77, 82, 86, 88, 114, 117, 121, 122, 132, 143, 173, 176, 187, 188, 209, 222, 255, 265, 298, 317, 346, 355, 356, 360, 361, 373, 377, 385, 398, 403, 443—445, 452, 453, 456, 458, 463, 470, 472, 475, 476, 478, 483, 490, 494.

Imagos.—12, 15—19 21, 24, 25, 31—34, 43—45, 48, 52—54, 57, 64, 71, 81, 91, 94, 107, 108, 112, 136, 141, 143, 145, 148, 150, 152, 153, 157, 159, 161, 162, 165, 174, 175, 179, 183—185, 197, 198, 202, 204, 206, 210, 213, 214, 221, 225, 233, 235, 236, 241, 248, 254, 263, 273, 277, 280, 281, 286, 288, 289, 293—296, 301, 305, 308, 309, 313, 316, 319, 324—328, 331, 332, 335, 338, 339, 341, 342, 344, 345, 348, 349, 365, 366, 386, 390, 400, 407, 417, 422, 449, 457, 465, 473, 474, 476, 477, 479, 480—482, 484, 487, 491—493, 497.—EDWIN TEARLE, *Gainsborough*; June 28.

It is very natural that ants should have become scarce round London; the invasion of the country by the houses would alone account for this, without the aid of the collectors. I dare say the collectors were rude enough in their operations, but such proceedings were only in consonance with an age that used lucifer-matches, thought a steam-engine a fine thing, and lavished encomiums upon the genius that invented railways. The methods used by collectors may have caused some diminution in the number of ants, but you must remember that, at the time you write of, the game laws were in force, the ants were preserved for the food of the pheasants, and that it was very difficult to gain access to woods,—all of which circumstances tended to the increase of the ants, and their preservation from collectors. Now that we obtain materials direct from their elements and only grow trees for ornament, we can scarcely imagine how the ground was then cumbered with timber, which was required for building and fuel; the clearing away of the wood must have affected the existence of insects that lived in their shelter. Banks and hedge-rows having also disappeared, the species that were sheltered therein would necessarily become scarce. And when you deplore the scarcity of ants you must not omit to take into account the effects produced by collecting in a restricted area, even in a moderate way, by the vast number of persons, whose total has increased annually for more than a century, until, as you say, “now every house contains a Museum of Natural History.” I heard of one collector who had lately discovered the head-quarters of a rare and local bee on the coast of Norfolk, and in order that he might get a series he actually went and resided at the place, and captured as many as he possibly could. Could we wonder if that species were to be extinguished? You see that our generation has its own sins to answer for, and that if any scarcity of

ants or other insects exists in consequence of the captures of collectors, those who have borne the net before our time ought not to have all the blame. I doubt much, however, if the attacks of entomologists upon insects produce any very appreciable effect upon their numbers; what they lose in one generation they make up in the next. If any human exertions could have extirpated a race of insects, we should have been free by this time from wasps and bed-bugs, against which the war has for ages been unceasing.

Upon the whole, then, and without at all commending the reckless proceedings quoted by you, such as giving the sack to whole colonies of ants, I am inclined to attribute the scarcity of ants, as well as other insects, in the metropolitan district, to more causes than the ravages of collectors. I think it is also an exaggeration to say that ants have become rare in France and Germany; living in the heart of the city, you seem to forget how large those countries are, and that there are yet thousands of acres upon which an entomologist has never set foot.

I regret that any enquiries of mine should have so entirely put your pipe out; be consoled, and come and smoke a friendly calumet with

Yours very sincerely,

A. SMITH JOHNSON.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE TINEINA.

The Genus *DEPRESSARIA*.

(Continued from p. 112.)

**Miserella*. Herrich-Schäffer states that this species, which is closely allied to *Douglasella*, was bred by Herr Schmid, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, from larvæ off elm trees (*Rüsternraupen*).

Ocellana. The larva of this species feeds on the leaves of willows and poplars in July.

**Petasitis*. The larva feeds in the stems of *Petasites albus* in May; the stems inhabited are easily recognised, because they are eaten through at one side below the blossom, and thus appear injured. It is not yet known whether the larva attacks *Petasites vulgaris*.

Pimpinella. The larva feeds, in August and September, in the umbels of *Pimpinella Saxifraga*; it forms a light white web in the umbel.

Pulcherrimella. The larva of this species has been found feeding on the flowers of the Earth-nut (*Bunium flexuosum*), about the middle of June.

Purpurea. The larva of this insect was detected by the late Herr Bremi, of Zurich, on *Torilis Anthriscus*.

**Retiferella*. The *Rutana* of Fabricius, more fully noticed in our leading article this day, feeds on rue (*Ruta graveolens*).

Rotundella. The larva of this insect has been reported to feed on the flowers of the Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*); the insect is certainly abundant in places where the *Echium* grows freely.

**Schmidtella*. An alpine species, the larva of which feeds between united leaves of *Doronicum Austriacum*, in May.

Subpropinquella. The larva of this species feeds on the under side of leaves of thistle and knapweed, in July.

**Thapsiella*. The larva of this Sicilian species feeds on the leaves of *Thapsia Garganica*; it is full fed early in April. Where it occurs it is very abundant.

**Veneficella*. This species is likewise a native of Sicily; the larva feeds in the umbels of *Thapsia Garganica*, in April and May.

Concerning the species of which the larvæ are still undiscovered, the following observations on their localities may prove serviceable:—

**Adspersella*. Near Vienna; scarce, in July.

Badiella. Occurs in August in chalky places: the *Umbelliferae* growing in such

localities should be inspected in June and July for the chance of finding the larva.

Bipunctosa. Has occurred at Freshwater, Isle of Wight, in July.

**Cervicella*. Has occurred in Styria and near Vienna.

Ciniflonella. Common in Perthshire, in July; occurs also in Finland, Livonia and the North of Prussia.

**Corticinella*. Two specimens were taken in Dalmatia, in July.

Granulosella. Has occurred near Deal, in September.

**Hepatarrella*. Has been observed in Livonia and in Finland, in July.

**Hirtipalpis*. Has occurred in Dalmatia, and also in the South of Spain, in July and August.

**Impurella*. Appears in August and September in several localities in Germany.

**Incarnatella*. A single female has occurred in the centre of Germany.

**Lætella*. One specimen from Southern Hungary.

**Ledcreri*. One specimen from Cyprus.

**Lutosella*. Has occurred in Croatia, near Finne.

**Olerella*. Has occurred at Glogau, Frankfort-on-the-Oder and Frankfort-on-the-Maine; only hybernated specimens have been met with, so that probably it emerges from the pupa rather late.

Pallorella. Common at Folkestone, Dover and the Isle of Wight, in September; it is also widely distributed on the Continent.

Pastinacella. This species appears attached to chalky localities, occurring in various parts of the South of England; it has also occurred at Chateaudun, in France, and in the South of Spain.

**Putridella*. Has occurred in June, near Vienna.

**Rhodochrella*. We are strongly disposed to fancy this is only a variety of *Atomella*, but in Spain and in the South of France it occurs constantly and in

plenty, and not (as we understand) mixed with specimens of the typical *Atomella*.

**Tenebricosa*. Has occurred in Dalmatia, in July.

Ultimella. By no means scarce in chalky localities in the South of England, appearing in September.

Yeatiana. This species occurs commonly in some places near London, and also abounds at Lewes and Birkenhead; it appears in September. On the Continent it has occurred at Glogau and Baden-Baden.

H. T. STANTON.

GREENWICH NATURAL HISTORY CLUB.

THE July excursion of this Club will take place on Thursday, the 14th inst., under the guidance of Mr. Stainton, and will be mainly devoted to Entomology.

The excursion will start from the Dartford Station of the North-Kent Railway at 11 o'clock, on the arrival of the train which leaves London Bridge at 10.15 A.M. Gentlemen residing at Lewisham and Blackheath will leave those stations at 10.3 and 10.7 respectively, awaiting at Woolwich the arrival of the train for Dartford.

From Dartford Station the route will be across Dartford Heath, past the celebrated "palings," to Bexley, thence southwards along the valley of the Cray, through North Cray, St. Paul's Cray, towards St. Mary's Cray, whence, turning to the north-west, the road will be attained which leads to Chislehurst. At this latter place will be the *rendezvous* at the "Tiger's Head." Gentlemen can then return by the Mid-Kent train from the Southborough Road Station, which is about a mile from Chislehurst.

Entomologists (non-members of the Club) who wish to join the excursion are

requested to communicate beforehand with Mr. Stainton.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 146.]

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

THE REIGATE GATHERING.

—

The morning of the sixth July
A crowd of men came down
To Railway Station, London Bridge,
And booked for Reigate Town.

The booking clerk was quite amazed
That all asked for one place,
And wondered if they meant to go
To see a fight or race.

He wondered while he took a fare,
Though no affair of his,
And when one whispered "Butterflies,"
He took him for a quiz.

The railway-carriages were filled
To quite an overflow,
Until at length the engine screams,
And then away they go.

There Smith and Stainton, Waterhouse,
And long-lost Walton too,
With Walker, Douglas, Stevens, all
Old hunters good and true.

There also Shepherd, Janson, Groves
(But not of Blarney Stone),
On whom I thought to make a pun—
'Tis better let alone.

And there were also Bowerbank,
And Paseoe, Bond and Weir,
With others whose unruly names
In rhyme will not appear.

Some showed the weapons of the chase,
The bottle, box and net,
And told how insect artifice
By artifice was met.

And how to kill the game when caught,
By leaves of laurel bruised;
Some cyanide or chloroform,—
One formic acid used.

And past New Cross and Forest Hill,
Then Croydon, Merstham run
These jolly souls who made the train
A vehicle of fun.

The jokes and mirth at railway pace
Still speeding bravely on,
Were suddenly brought to a stand
By shouts of "Reigate Town."

And all these men then left the train
To driver and to guard,
And thirty thirsty souls emerged
From Reigate Station yard.

There Wilson Saunders met the lot,
With welcome for each guest,—
For such these insect-hunters were,—
Invited to his best.

The best of hearts—a "White Hart" too—
Was open there and then,
And at the latter knives and forks
Were laid for thirty men.

Soon nets were mounted, and the throng
Went out o'er hill and dale;
But all the dodges most in use
Were found of no avail;

For insects all had learned the plan
 For ravaging their race,
 And over many miles of ground
 Scarce one would show his face.

Yet though they coyly hid themselves
 In holes and chinks and grass,
 Until the reconnoiterers
 By their retreats should pass,
 And so they mostly managed thus
 To keep themselves from harm,
 It happened that each visitor
 Received reception warm;

For never was there greater heat
 Evolved from solar ray
 Than fell upon the luckless heads
 Of our good friends that day.

At Wanham Park, at one o'clock,
 Beneath the leafy trees,
 The muster roll was called, and lo!
 They also mustered cheese.

And as the panting multitude
 Were literally baked,
 Beer, wine and soda water ran
 Until their thirst was slaked.

Then for three mortal hours again
 They through the country ranged,
 When white heat in the Reigate fields
 For "White Hart" was exchanged.

The party had been reinforced,
 And fifty round the board
 Sat down, and with the good cheer there
 Their failing strength restored.

What though the captures had been few,
 The intercourse of friends
 Both out of doors and in, all felt,
 Did more than make amends.

Then for the founder of the feast
 We cheer with three times three,
 And if such gathering comes again
 May we be there to see.

J. W. D.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
 WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of
 W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

*All communications to be addressed to
 MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield,
 Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice
 will be taken of anonymous communications.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having removed from Ilminster, Somerset, my address is now — W. J. JORDAN, *Bullen School, St. Helen's, Isle of Wight.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ZEUZERA ÆSCULI.—We can give no recipe for rearing from the eggs of this insect; every female *Æsculi* lays an infinity of eggs. We had several ounces of them last year.

J. G. G., OXFORD.—Your insect is *Gracillaria Syringella*.

F. B.—Thanks for your note of captures; we will insert it when we can find room.

H. B., FULMER.—The Asparagus Beetle, *Crioceris Asparagi*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Colias Edusa near *Derby*.—My brother has just brought me a fine male specimen

of this insect, taken by him this morning.—MATTHEW HILL, *Little Eaton, near Derby*; July 5.

Colias Edusa.—On the 1st of this month I was surprised to see two specimens of this insect in Hyde Park! Is this something new, or of common occurrence? I have caught them before some little way from London, but never so near.—H. H. MERRIMAN, 4, *Kensington Square*.

Colias Edusa.—A fine specimen of this insect was caught by a friend of mine at Stonleigh, Warwickshire, on the 27th of June. I also saw another, at the same place, on the 6th inst, but was unable to take it, not having a net. They were both females.—S. W. SMITH, *Beaumont Villa, Northampton*; July 8.

Deilephila Galii.—At about a quarter past nine on Monday evening, the 4th inst., I captured a fine specimen of this insect, as it was hovering over red valerian. During this week I have also taken the following:—

Arge Galathea (21),

Chærocampa Porcellus (3),

Acidalia Ornata (2).

—R. E. TRYE, *Leckhampton Court*; July 7.

Deilephila Galii.—Permit me to record the capture, in fine condition, of this insect, on the 5th inst., while sitting on a pear tree; also of a fine specimen of a fine female *Sirex gigas*, having just emerged from pupa, as I suppose, for it was drying its wings near a hole in a fir tree. I have also taken *C. Ligniperda* at sugar.—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough*; July 11.

Deilephila Galii.—I have in my possession a fine specimen of this insect, which was taken at rest, within a mile of this town, on the 4th inst.—JONATHAN ORDE, 5, *East St., Darlington*; July 10.

Deilephila Galii.—A specimen was captured near here the other evening, hovering over the bloom of a carnation.* It was taken by a young gentleman who

has only commenced this summer.—R. W. WRIGHT, 4, *Gloucester Terrace, Victoria Park Road, Hackney, N.E.*; July 6.

Zeuzera Æsculi.—I have taken at gas-light, within the last few days, seven specimens of this insect, all males, and unfortunately not in very good condition.—G. KEEN, 1, *Manor Place, Walworth*; July 5.

Aplecta Tincta.—During the last fortnight I have been successful in breeding the following, from larvæ taken at West Wickham this season:—

Thecla Quercus,

Aplecta Tincta,

Triphæna Fimbria,

Psilura Monacha,

Pterostoma Palpina.

I have a fine brood of larvæ of *A. Tincta*, from eggs of last season, now feeding.—W. H. LATCHFORD, 12, *New Charles Street, City Road*; July 7.

Erastria Venustula.—I took the above insect, in fine condition, in Epping Forest, on the 29th of May, and again on the 7th of June.—W. E. PALLENDER, 49, *Bridport Place*.

Erastria Venustula.—Specimens of this insect, recently taken in Epping Forest, were exhibited at the Meeting of the Entomological Society of London, on the 4th inst.—H. T. STANTON; July 9.

Erastria Venustula.—On the 12th of June last, I captured three specimens of this rare and lovely species in Epping Forest.—C. HEALY, 4, *Bath Place, Haggerstone, N.E.*; July 9.

Pterostoma Palpina.—I captured a specimen of this species flying about a coffee-room in Shoreditch, on the evening of the 19th ult.—IBID.

Entomological Notes and List of Captures.—On the 28th of June I saw two specimens of *Colias Edusa*; from their freshness I should think they had just emerged.

Lithosia Pygmæola,

Callimorpha Dominula,

Nonagria Despecta,
 Diantheicia Consersa,
 „ Capsincola,
 Heliothis Dipsacea,
 Pionea Margaritalis,
 Aidalia Peroehraria.

Sugar is not good for much, except it be for *X. Polyodon* and *A. Segetum*; they come in swarms some nights, and drive off everything else.

Sciaphila Perterana,
 Xanthosetia Inopiaua,
 Cochylis Smeathmanniana.

Melissoblastes Bipunctatus. The larva of this species feeds in the stems or roots of sea-grass (*Amphiphila arundinacea*?)

I have taken one of *Anerastia Farrella*: some persons think this and *Lotella* one and the same; I must inform them that they never made a greater mistake. I am breeding *Pterophorus Lienigianus* from the *Artemisia*. Those who expect to take the larvæ of *Agestis* on the *Helianthemum* had better look out, as the larvæ are half-fed on the sea crane's-bill.—H. J. HARDING, "*Noah's Ark*," *Peter Street, Deal*; July 3.

Captures near Cheltenham.—I write to inform you that I captured the following last month:—

A. Euphrosyne (11),
 N. Lucina (1),
 P. Arion (10),
 „ *Agestis* (7),
 C. Porellus (7),
 E. Glyphica (1),
 M. Margaritata (4),
 A. Ornata (1),
 N. Plantaginis (4),
 O. Chærophyllata (2).

I captured also one specimen of a variety of *T. Alveolus*. *C. Porellus* is not near so common this year as last; last year it was far more abundant than *P. Gamma*; it was the commonest moth at flowers. *A. Cratagi*, *P. Statices* and *Globularia* have been captured about Cheltenham. I have seen *V. Atalanta* on the wing two

or three times.—R. E. TRYE, *Leekhampton Court*; July 4.

Captures in the Isle of Wight.—During the past week I have taken the following species in this locality:—

Arge Galathea (abundant),
 Hipparchia Hyperanthus (do.),
 Limenitis Sibylla,
 Cynthia Cardui,
 Vanessa Polyehloros,
 Argynnis Paphia,
 Smerinthus Populi.

—W. J. JORDAN, *St. Helen's, near Ryde, Isle of Wight*; July 11.

HYMENOPTERA.

Sirex gigas.—My brother captured yesterday a fine specimen of the above species in a small fir plantation.—R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Eye*; July 7.

COLEOPTERA.

Bembidium pallipes.—A few days ago Mrs. Gregson accompanied me on the Southport Sand Hills *Bembidium*-hunting; for several hours I worked away, now here, now there, but always in likely places for *Bembidium pallipes*, without success. Tea time came, and only three specimens taken; after tea Mr. Davis joined in the hunt, and we decided to try new ground. In a hollow behind the church we found *Dyschirius* traces freely, so down on our marrow-bones and to work we went, and scarcely were we down when Mr. Davis cried out, "Bottle, bottle! *Bem. pallipes*!" he had found a female, and there were several males within a few inches of her. Before train time we had taken about thirty fine specimens. Since then Mr. Davis has sent me another supply, so my friends may expect it.—C. S. GREGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool*; June 29.

Bembidium paludosum.—Being in Kendal one day in Whitsun week I found everybody had left business for pleasure, so I thought I would follow suit, and into the bed of the river I went beetle-

hunting; as it had not rained for weeks, everywhere except the river was parched up, and the river was low indeed. I tried many likely places without success; at last I got round a deep pool, and under the large stones around it I took many specimens of *B. paludosum*, which seemed to have left the gravel beds and congregated here for the dampness under them. Strange to say, I did not see a single common species in two hours' hunting, yet, as I persevered, hoping against hope, as it were, fortune favoured me at last with plenty of specimens for self and friends of a species I much wanted.—**IBID.**

Bembidium velox.—Being out on the banks of the river Ribble, with Mr. Hodgkinson, *Bembidium*-hunting, a short time since, we took this species in plenty, running about on the gravel-beds. Near the pay-bridge we also got *B. stomoides*, *B. nitidulum*, *B. lunatum*, *B. affine*, *B. prasinum* and an unrecognised species allied to *B. biguttatum*.—**IBID.**

Captures of Coleoptera.—I have taken some fine specimens of the following beetles during the last two months:—

Lebia chlorocephala,
Dyschirius politus,
 „ *nitidus*,
 „ *salinus*,
 „ *globosus*,
Notiophilus palustris,
Synuchus vivalis,
Olistophus rotundatus,
Harpalus rubripes,
 „ *puncticollis*,
 „ *flavipes*,
Bradycellus cognatus,
 „ *similis*,
Trechus discus,
 „ *micros*,
Bembidium lunatum,
 „ *decorum*,
 „ *stomoides*,
 „ *monticola*,
 „ *nitidulum*,
 „ *prasinum*.

Bembidium velox,
 „ *4-guttatum*,
 „ *4-maculatum*, &c.
 „ *pallipes*. I have had several of this species sent me by a friend.

I have nearly all noted in fair quantity.—
 J. B. HODGKINSON, *Preston; July 5.*

Captures at Darenth.—In the early part of June I have taken the following species (amongst others) at the Greenhithe end of this inexhaustible locality.

Leistus rufescens.

Calathus fuscus. Plentiful under cut weeds in paths through corn-fields.

Harpalus puncticollis.

Homalota pagana.

Agrilus biguttatus.

„ *viridis*. Excessively abundant.

Limonius minutus.

Campylus linearis.

Malachius fasciatus.

Ædemera cærulea. Very common in flowers of *Ranunculus*, and active.

Bruchus rufimanus.

Apoderus Coryli.

Rhynchites Betulæ.

„ *megacephalus*.

„ *nannus*. Not uncommon.

„ *germanicus*. Do.

„ *pubescens*.

„ *betuleti*. But always on hazel.

„ *populi*.

Strophosomus obesus.

Sciaphilus muricatus.

Cneorhinus exaratus.

Erirhinus tortrix.

„ *tremulæ*.

Amalus scortillum.

Tychius junceus.

Rutidosomus globulus.

Tachyerges stigma.

„ *salicis*.

Miarus campanulæ.

Balaninus Brassicæ.

Centorhynchus sulcicollis.

„ *marginatus*.

„ *constrictus*.

Ceutorhynchus assimilis.

Gymnaetron melanarius.

Cionus seropulariæ.

„ *blattariæ*.

„ *Thapsus*.

Callidium alni. Abundant on bundles of hop-pole cuttings stacked. Cantieë “bavins.”

Saperda cylindrica.

Pogonocherus hispidus.

Tetrops præusta.

Clytus mysticus.

Toxotus meridianus.

Pachyta collaris. Very common on Umbelliferous plants.

Strangalia elongata. Do.

Leptura melanura. Do.

Zeugophora subspinosus.

Mordella abdominalis.

Corynetes violaceus.

Onthophagus cænobita.

Cryptoecephalus labiatus.

Chrysomela Banksii.

„ *hyperici*,

„ *litura*.

Tritoma bipustulatum.

Seymnus bipustulatus.

Haltica fuseipes.

„ *antennata*.

„ *eoneinna*.

„ *obseurella*.

Thyamis nigricans.

—E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*; July 5.

HEMIPTERA.

Captures at Darenth.—While sweeping for Coleoptera at Darenth I have recently found the following species:—

Coreus marginatus,

Phlæa prasina (very full flavoured),

Pentatoma baccarum,

„ *juniperina*,

„ *melanocephala*,

„ *perlata*,

Ælia acuminata,

Cydnus marginatus,

„ *bipunctatus*,

„ *bicolor*,

Lygæus capitatus,

„ *nugax*,

„ *Rolandri* (with *Calathus fus-*
eus),

also *Centrotus genistæ* and *Cercopis vulnerata* (*Sanguinolenta olim*), which two species I have in duplicate. Later in the season *Issus coleoptratus* and *Ledra aurita* have both fallen to my net, the former not uncommonly. I should be glad to hear of any other entomologist beginning to work these interesting insects (barring *C. lectularius*), and beg to state, for the comfort of collectors, that although there is a decidedly nasty “eimicine” odour about many, yet some species are equally conspicuous for smelling pleasantly.—E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Flights of Insects.—The coast is a strange place for flights of various species; I have never seen the same kind two years in succession: one time it was large flights of *Coccinellæ*, at another the “large white” (*Pieris Brassicæ*); another year the air is filled with winged ants; last year with a species of *Diptera*; this year with *Athalia Centifolia*. On the 16th of June, the day hot and still, wind south-west, as is the case when these flights take place (I observed the species on every kind of plant some days before), at about 10 A.M., the flight began, passing along in a cloud over the herbage skirting the sea; at about one they came thicker and faster; at half-past one they had all passed. I have not seen twenty since. Where have they gone to? [Woe to the turnip-fields where they have alighted!]—H. J. HARDING, “*Noah's Ark*,” *Peter Street, Deal*; July 3.

Carpocapsa Splendana.—By strictly following the directions given by Mr. J. W. Douglas, in a previous number of

the 'Intelligencer,' as to the time of collecting the fallen acorns, I have bred a fine series of this species.—C. HEALY, 4, Bath Place, Haggerstone; July 9.

Carpocapsa Splendana.—I am now breeding a fine series of this insect from acorns picked off the trees (not off the ground) last year. The acorns were placed in a glass with some sand at the bottom; the larvæ formed a cocoon with portions of the sand. I then removed the acorns, which were getting mouldy, and the result is as above. I specially mention the picking off the trees, as I was afterwards told by a friend that those picked off the trees were not so good as those which had fallen on the ground. Can any of the readers of the 'Intelligencer' inform me where I can get *Arge Galathea* near London?—A. D. TAYLOR, 85, Nelson Square, Snow's Fields, Bermondsey.

Habits of Diplodoma marginipunctella.—You will probably recollect that M. Breyer showed you a *Tinea*-case, which you thought to be that of *Margini-punctella*. I found a similar case on the trunk of an oak tree, and I tried to rear it by offering it some lichen; but as it would not eat lichen, it occurred to me to try it with insects. Accordingly I placed at its disposal a rather large weevil, which I had half-killed by way of precaution. The next morning the weevil was "cleaned out," and the elytra and head were adorning the case of the larva. I afterwards gave it a fly and a *Tortrix ocellana*, both which suffered the same fate. A few days afterwards the larva fastened up its case, and I thought it was going to change to a pupa, but on opening the case just now I perceive that the larva is dried up. It seems, however, no longer doubtful but that the larvæ which fasten the *débris* of insects to their cases are carnivorous. I do not maintain that they feed exclusively on insects; perhaps they also feed on lichen, or on something else unknown to us, and that

may be the cause of our repeated failures in our attempts to rear the perfect insects.—E. FOLOGNE, *Rue du Marais*, S. 5, No. 16, Brussels; June 30.

EXCHANGE.

Stilpnotia Salicis.—Any gentleman in want of this insect can have it by sending box and return postage.—J. BALDING, 15, Lynn Road, Wisbech; July 5.

Selenia Illustraria.—I have eggs of this species, which I shall be happy to exchange for either 42, 43, 44 or 53, as numbered in the Appendix to the 'Manual;' larvæ or pupæ preferred, as only perfect insects will be of use to me. Should my offer prove acceptable to any one, I should be glad to hear from parties before insects are sent.—R. H. FREMLIN, Wateringbury, Kent; July 11.

Stop!—"It was lucky, sir," said my servant to me one morning, "that I chanced to take a good large basket with me to the village, or I don't know how I should have brought up all your letters; the bag wasn't much use. The postmaster is gone too, they say to London; I should think, sir, he's frightened about it." My fears about the postmaster were relieved by hearing that his family and a carpet-bag had joined him in his flight, and by remembering that it was Whitsuntide! He has since been heard of! But now, *ad rem*, I beg to say that all my larvæ of *L. Trifolii* have long been sent away. The notice, from being posted on a Tuesday, did not appear till the following Saturday week, and by consequence, when applications came for a greater quantity of larvæ than I possessed, it was too late for me to collect any more. Another and worse misfortune resulted also from the delay; I had to leave home for some days, and during my absence the larvæ were smothered with food, and one or two hundred died.

Still I was able to supply about three dozen applicants with larvæ, besides some among whom I divided at the last a few larvæ which I had reserved for myself, sending two or three to each, in order that they might become acquainted with them. I made a list of all the applications as they arrived, noting the kind of box sent, its state, and the amount of return postage enclosed. Those who sent useful boxes were supplied, in their turn, as soon as was possible. The damaged boxes were put on one side until I had leisure to write to their owners. I give a few extracts from my list, to show the want of thought displayed by some, and the misfortune suffered by others:—

No. 1. One of Gardner's corked boxes, broken to pieces, and 4d.

No. 8. Chip box, 1½ inch diameter, crushed, and 1d. With respect to this box I have received two letters, the last one most peremptory, demanding an answer by return of post, to account for the insects not having been received. I am sorry I have not yet been able to send Mr. P. Steer the information he requires, as I gave the preference to those who were more courteous in their tone.

No. 9. Chip toy-box, bottom out.

No. 25. Turned wood pill-box, smashed.

No. 27. A paper case, endorsed and redolent of "Bremen Bird's-eye," squashed flat.

I will not quote more, suffice it to say that no less than fourteen boxes arrived utterly useless. Besides the above, here are examples of another class:—

No. 19. A tin box, and 4d. did not prepay his letter, so I had to pay 8d.—an expensive "party."

No. 31. A corked box, and letter so pasted up as to be almost illegible, name and address quite so.

No. 56. A thin deal box, smashed, three sides lost, 2d., and a note asking for *E. Lanestris* (my offer was of *Trifolii*), and saying he has sent larvæ of *Chi*. Collectors in the G. P. O. had better look out.

Another large class of applicants requested answers before sending boxes; to these I must apologise for not having sent answers until all my larvæ were gone. I could not help it; my time was so occupied by more important matters that I was obliged to confine myself to sending larvæ to those who sent proper boxes, and of these I was able to supply all except a very few whose boxes and stamps I have returned, paying the postage myself. I have made these remarks in order to show that it is rather hard upon those who, like me, are willing to assist the "town mice" to the utmost, but who are not disposed to waste our time in needless correspondence, to be inundated every time one offers insects by a mass of broken boxes, with the obligation of returning the postage and writing to explain. It would be a great thing if those who wish to avail themselves of this useful system of exchange would fix upon a pattern box (amongst those sent me were some first-rate ones), which should be safe in the post, and by uniformity save one from the time and trouble of doing up the square, round, oblong, oval and no-shaped boxes which now disfigure one's breakfast-table. The principle of exchanging is a good one, but it is rendered intolerable by the needless labour caused by its being so badly carried out. If sound boxes were sent, I would always gladly help my brother collectors, and I shall hope to hear of some pattern box being put forth "by authority" for the young hands to adopt. At present I can only say of exchange, "'Its a good game,' as the hoop said to the stick, 'only I get all the licks!'"—
REV. W. H. HAWKER, *Green Hook, Horndean, Hants; July 4.*

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 147.]

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

LOCAL FLORAS AND FAUNAS.

WE have lately received two works of this class; one relating to that interesting region, the Island of Arran; the other to the vicinity of Huddersfield. Dr. Bryce, who has devoted considerable time to the production of the volume on Arran, has made the foundation of the work Geological. The first sixty pages may be considered as prefatory matter, as they refer to Clydesdale and Bute.

The Geology of Arran commences at p. 61, and, interspersed with descriptions of scenery, is continued to p. 155. The Flora of Arran follows the Geology, and occupies seventeen pages. To the Marine Zoology thirty-five pages are devoted, and two to the Entomology of the Island. Owing to the excessive brevity of the notices of insects, we must refrain from criticising the entomological portion of the work.

As plants grow on the soil, and as insects feed on plants, it is evident that first Geology, then Botany, and then Entomology, is the proper order in which these three kindred studies should be treated, and the entomologist would feel that were either the botanical or geological section of the volume

omitted, something would be wanting to enable him to elaborate theoretically the insect inhabitants of the locality.

We feel convinced that, with the addition of some fuller information on the climate, had the list of plants been complete, an entomologist might have taken up this volume, and have worked out a list of the insects which *should* occur in the Island, and the list so constructed would have been as correct as nine-tenths of the lists compiled for insertion in similar local publications. But unfortunately the list of plants comprises only the rarer plants of Arran, and therefore the omission of any species in the list gives us *no* information,—it may be excessively abundant or entirely wanting.

Most of the common plants of Arran—the plants of the field, the roadside and the marsh—are common to it and the Western Lowlands of Scotland, but several of the Highland plants occur on the higher granite mountains, which occupy so conspicuous a position in the Northern part of the Island. Again, there are a few plants found in Arran almost peculiar to the Western Coast and to the Hebridean chain of Islands.

But, to quote the words of the author, “the most curious feature in

the botanical geography of Arran is the occurrence in its southern extremity of several species scarcely elsewhere to be found in Scotland, belonging, in fact, to the Flora of central England, and here apparently quite projected, so to speak, from their ordinary range; these all occur within the circuit of a mile, on the warm southern face of the cliffs and steep alluvial banks that front the sea, at the extreme south of the Island, near Benan-head."

Mr. Hobkirk's work on 'The History and Natural History of Huddersfield,' is mainly historical, and consequently more interesting to antiquarians than to others. This portion of the work extends to ninety-six pages, whilst Geology is dismissed in eight; twenty-eight pages are devoted to Botany, and, unlike the work on Arran, the list of plants is a complete one, even *Taraxacum officinale* and *Bellis perennis* being recorded. Those who are anxious to obtain *Depressaria Petasitis* will be interested in learning from this volume that its food-plant, *Petasites albus*, is naturalized in a damp hollow in an oak wood, near Storthes Hall.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of
W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to
MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield,
Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice
will be taken of anonymous communica-
tions.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Many communications necessarily stand over from want of space.

ERRATA. — In last week's 'Intelligencer,' p. 124, line 5 from bottom, and p. 125, line 7, for *B. paludosum* read *B. decorum*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Colias Edusa and *Hyale*. — I have taken, near here, about twenty specimens of these species. — W. E. HEAP, *Clarence Barracks, Portsmouth*; July 16.

Colias Edusa. — While travelling, on the 8th inst., from Oxford to Exeter, on the Great Western Railway, I observed, flying over some clover near the Didcot Station, a specimen of this insect. I also saw three more on the same day, near the Swindon Station. — J. C. GALTON, 5, *Colleton Crescent, Exeter*.

Colias Edusa and *Arge Galathea* near *Petersfield, Hants*. — On the 7th of this month I saw a specimen of *C. Edusa*, but was not able to capture it: I know also of the capture, not far from here, on the 5th inst., of two more specimens: this, I see by the 'Mannual,' is some six weeks earlier than the usual time of *Edusa*'s appearance, and seems to promise that it will again be abundant this year. Yesterday, the 11th inst., I came upon a large brood of *Arge Galathea*, near here, and of these, without a net, I captured six specimens, and might have taken many more: this is the first time I have met with it in this neighbourhood. — THOMAS FLOUDB, *Petersfield, Hants*.

Acidalia Rubricata. — I had the good fortune yesterday, whilst in pursuit of *E. Vespertaria*, to capture a fine example of *A. Rubricata*, in the locality in which the specimens of that insect in Mr. T. H.

Allis's cabinet were taken.—J. BIRKS, York; July 16.

Deilephila Galii.—My father captured a specimen of this insect, on the 5th inst., in his garden, at Bungay, in Suffolk.—W. GARNEYS, 17, Chenies Street, Bedford Square, London; July 12.

Captures near Oxford.—During the past season I have taken the following species of Lepidoptera in the environs of Oxford:—

Argynnis Adippe,
 „ Paphia,
 Nemeobius Lucina,
 Thecla Rubi,
 Thymeles Alveolus,
 Steropes Paniscus,
 Sesia Fuciformis,
 Zeuzera Esculi,
 Diaphora Mendica,
 Bapta Temeraria.

—DOUGLAS TIMINS, Oriel, Oxon.

Captures near Oxford.—On the 1st of this month I went to Stowe Wood, about four miles from here, where, amongst others, I caught

Phorodesma Bajularia,
 Acidalia Inornata,
 „ Remutata,
 Bradyepetes Amataria,
 Spilodes Cinctalis,
 Lozotania Roborana,
 Micropteryx Aruncella,

and the pretty little *Elachista Gleichenella*. On the morning of the 5th a friend and I chased a fine *Colias Edusa*, but, being only armed with our hats, the enemy escaped. The same afternoon I went to another wood near here, and had the pleasure of taking three specimens of *Arge Galathea*, in first-rate condition. *Argynnis Aglaia* was out in some numbers; they stuck close to the tall thistles, for whose purple flowers they evinced a decided partiality.—J. G. GRENFELL, Pembroke College, Oxford; July 8.

Captures near Tintern, Monmouthshire.—In the last week of June and first week

of July I met with the following species in the neighbourhood of Tintern:—

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| A. Cratægi, | E. Omicronaria, |
| C. Edusa, | E. Plumbeolata, |
| G. C-album, | Absynthiata, |
| T.W-album, | Tenuiata, |
| M. Albicillaria, | Pulchellata, |
| A. Ulmata, | H. Crassalis, |
| E. Tæniata, | P. Punicealis, |
| M. Unangulata, | B. Fuscalis (very |
| C. Silaceata, | abundant), |
| P. Bajularia, | Lancealis (do.), |
| M. Euphorbiata, | P. Picana, |
| A. Luteata, | Capræana, |
| A. Sylvata, | A. Udmanniana, |
| A. Blomeraria, | L. Cinnamomeana, |
| E. Heparata, | C. Tesserana. |

In the same locality, on former occasions, I have taken *T. Vernaria* and *P. Orichalcea*.—B. PIFFARD, Epping Place, Epping, Essex.

ORTHOPTERA.

A Locust.—I caught a large locust, the other day, about three miles from here.—W. E. HEAP, Clarence Barracks, Portsmouth; July 16.

COLEOPTERA.

Stilicis fragilis.—At the end of April and beginning of May, in the present year, I captured several specimens of this species, under dead leaves in a damp wood in Suffolk.—W. GARNEYS, 17, Chenies Street, Bedford Square, London; July 12.

OBSERVATIONS.

Acherontia Atropos.—This morning I obtained a specimen of this insect, from larvæ which I had brought me the beginning of last August. The specimen is a very fine one, and measures just five inches across the wing. I have also two more pupæ, both of which appear to be

alive. — T. FLOUD, *Petersfield, Hants*; July 14.

Fumea Nitidella. — During my entomological excursions this season I have taken a great number of the cases of this species, which I put together in a small box, laying them singly along the bottom. Three males, ten females and twenty ichneumon flies (of three different kinds) have made their appearance. I used to look into the box two or three times a-day, and take out what was in the imago state. On looking this morning I found several of the cases covered with what looked like mites in cheese; presently the mass spread itself over the box, and, in the motion, each individual looked like a minute pillar of pith walking on its end: on placing one of them under a microscope a wonderful object presented itself; a thimble, two inches long and three quarters of an inch wide at the opening, elaborately made, as it would appear, of tissue-paper of variegated colours, was supported by something inside (like Jack in the Green); presently the thimble fell back, and a caterpillar, very like *Cossus Ligniperda*, crept half out, walked along upon the six front legs, the thimble toppling about unsteadily, till at last it extinguished the tenant; a rest, the thimble fell back and the walking commenced, &c. Are these the young *Fumea Nitidella*? If so, do they live through the winter in these cases and feed up in May and June? [Yes; each makes its own case as soon as it quits the egg.] — E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough*.

Coleophora Saturatella. — I have bred this species from the cases on broom I found at Wanstead. — CHARLES MILLER, 17, *Silurian Terrace, Broke Road, Dalton*; July 12.

Coleophora binotapennella bred. — I have the satisfaction of recording that the larvæ found by me last October at Brighton ('Annual,' p. 163) has produced the above species. It will be remembered that the larva bored down the stems of

the *Salicornia*. It was very abundant, and no doubt if others search for it this year they will be as fortunate as myself. It remains in the larva state throughout the winter, and changes to pupa in the beginning of June. — JOHN SCOTT, *Southfield Villas, Middlesbro'-on-Tees*; July 11.

Coleophora argentula bred. — I also found the larva of this species very plentiful at Brighton last year, and am now rearing it. Judging from the cases I collected and the insects reared, it does not seem so much infested with ichneumons as many of its brethren. — *IBID.*

Diplodoma marginipunctella. — The communication from M. Fologne, of Brussels, in this week's 'Intelligencer,' that "the larvæ of *D. marginipunctella* are at times carnivorous," is an astounding fact, and I congratulate him on his cleverness in discovering it. On the 9th of April I found several cases, one and two years old, and again on the 14th and 28th of May, and on the 9th of July; I placed them in a glass jar, and fed them with the bark of poplar, covered with decayed lichen, and along with it some sandy grit and rubbish from the base: some ought to have made their appearance by this time in the perfect state, but such is not the case. On reading the 'Intelligencer' last evening I determined to prove M. Fologne's assertion, and placed in the jar three or four beetles (*Pterostichus*) half-killed, and some seven or eight house-flies killed. Now for the result: this morning each of the house-flies was in the jaws of a larva; some had hold of them by the head, others had fixed on the abdomen; one of the beetles had died on its back, two cases were underneath, and two cases in close proximity to another beetle still alive. I found these cases on two poplar trees near here, and brought away all I could find each journey,—some on the boles, others on the ground; each visit produced more or less, and I have no doubt in my own mind that what I

missed were rambling away on the ground in quest of something to gratify their carnivorous taste, and then return to the trees for a change of diet.—R. S. EDLESTON, *Bowdon, Cheshire*; July 16.

Punishment of Incredulity.—On Monday, the 27th of June, we took an excursion from here to Rombald's Moor to collect, and I then proved to be true what I had often read of in the 'Intelligencer,' but never before believed. Having caught a female Oak-Eggar and put it in a small box under my arm, I began to try to catch some males which were flying about me, when I noticed that they were flying after me, instead of I after them. I soon found that they were attracted by the female, and we were not long in catching a considerable number, for they were flying round us in all directions, and I saw them approaching from distances which were certainly not less than 200 yards. We also got several good specimens of *Anarta Myrtilli* and larvæ of the Oak Eggar. I have written this, hoping that it may convince some of the readers of the 'Intelligencer' who are as hard of belief as I was, and tempt them to try their luck in a similar manner.—GEORGE HUDSON, 27, *Stansfield Row, Kirkstall, near Leeds*; July 8.

EXCHANGE.

Sphinx Ligustri.—I am rearing this insect from ova, and have a few larvæ to spare, which I will send to any one on receipt of a suitable box with return postage. I am also rearing from eggs *S. Bombyliiformis*, *C. Elpenor*, *A. Myrtilli* and *S. Carpi*.—W. H. TAYLOR, *Tolson Street, Sunny Bank, Leeds*; July 12.

Lineutis Sibylla.—We took, on the 11th inst., in Old Hall Wood, near Ipswich, several specimens of this insect, and also a fine female *Apatura Iris*, together

with many other common insects. We shall be very happy to exchange *L. Sibylla* for *V. C-album*, *A. Galathea*, *M. Artemis*; or two of the same for *H. Lucina* or *L. Candida*.—J. & E. FISON, *Stoke Hill, Ipswich*; July 12.

Epione Vespertaria.—I have again taken this species in some numbers, and shall be glad to receive duplicate lists from any gentlemen in want of fine specimens. None but good examples will be of any service to me.—W. PREST, 7, *Castlegate, York*; July 15.

Exchange.—I have duplicates of the following insects:—

Cænonympha Davus,

Polyommatus Argiolus,

Tæniocampa Populeti,

„ *Munda*,

Phragmatobia Fuliginosa (larvæ and pupæ),

Trachea Piniperda (larvæ).

I shall be glad to hear from gentlemen wanting any of the above, at the same time requesting them to name what they have about equal for exchange. Larvæ or pupæ would be preferred.—J. STEELE, *High Street, Congleton*; July 15.

Exchange.—Having duplicates of *E. Vespertaria*, I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by your journal of offering it for exchange. I have also duplicates of *A. Lonicæ*, *C. Mesomella*, *T. Pastinum*, and a few of *A. Porphyrea* and *H. Uncana*. Gentlemen to whom I have promised any of the above, but who until now I have been unable to supply, would much oblige by informing me if any of the above-named species are still amongst their wants.—R. ANDERSON, *Couey Street, York*.

Exchange.—I have examples of *N. Senex*, *L. Pudorina*, *H. Uncana* and *E. Vespertaria* to spare, and shall be glad to hear from gentlemen in want of those species. As my stock is limited (having already been diminished by draughts upon it), I must beg that applicants, who may not receive a written reply, will pardon

the apparent want of courtesy, accept this in lieu, and assign the true reason,—viz. exhaustion of stock and excessive labour involved in replying to each.—J. BIRKS, York; July 13.

OBSERVATIONS ON EUPITHECIÆ.

BY MR. GREGSON.

Linariata. Now appearing where its food grows: it feeds upon the flowers and seeds of the common toad-flax in August and September.

Rectangularia is still out in orchards.

Tenuiata is also out now; the sooner they are looked after the better. This queer larva was first bred by Mr. Diggles at Birkenhead, but the public are indebted to Mr. Doubleday for the information that it fed upon willow catkins. If we are to be guided by the form of the larvæ, then I do not know where to place this species: it is almost like a butterfly larva.

Begrandaria is now in its prime amongst *Myrica Gale* on the mosses.

Pygmæata is also out just now. I took it on "Conistone Old Man," a short time since, where it was getting wasted; on the wood-sides, near our Mosses, it is always a July insect. Whether it is a Pug or not I am not so sure! It flies by day, spinning along like *E. octomaculalis*.

Satyrata. This species is also in its prime now. Last year I bred many fine specimens from larvæ collected in Simmond's Wood, on various plants; I had bred it before from *Scabiosa succisa*; this plant produced the variety *Cinereata*, Curtis. I also bred it from larvæ collected by Mr. Greening upon heath flowers.

Nanata. The most variable, the most abundant, and perhaps the handsomest Pug we have, both in the larva and perfect state, occurring wherever the common

heath grows, and remaining out fine until the end of August. Who can describe the colours of this larva? Pink in one district, red in another, brown here, green of various shades there, but always the same markings, and always to be found with its head in the flowers of *Calluna vulgaris* in autumn.

Absynthiata of Doubleday's Catalogue. This species is now appearing where *Senecio Jacobæa* is plentiful; its larva, which it would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to describe (as there are no two alike) is as variable in colour as it well can be; it belongs to the short stout group of larvæ, and feeds upon the flowers and seeds of *S. Jacobæa*, in August and September. My idea of *Absynthiata* is a larger species, which feeds upon mugwort-leaves, the larvæ of which belong to the same group as *Succenturiata*.

Minutata is also now appearing on heaths; its stout larvæ (*always pink*) may be collected freely on the Lancashire Mosses, where *C. vulgaris* grows; it feeds upon the flowers. The perfect insect may be separated from the above by the peach-like bloom which is always upon good specimens.

Expallidata. This fine species is now on the wing at Bennarth Wood, Conway, where it was first discovered by Mr. Langcake and Mr. Carter. I took some unknown larvæ there in October, three years ago, which I expected to produce this species; they did not spin up; they were upon the devil's-bit scabious, but sickly.

July is the great month for *Eupitheciæ*. *Succenturiata* and its varieties are now in their glory in lanes and waste places, on the wing at dusk and on sugar late at night. I have taken them freely from midnight to 2 A.M., when hunting for *Agrotis Ashworthii* at Llanferris. This species is not particular in its food when first hatched, but seems to attach itself to the plant it first eats for life. The specimens fed upon yarrow are generally

darker than those fed upon the mugwort.

Denotata. I have never bred this species; it is not scarce at Llanferras and other similar districts all through Wales, sitting upon limestone rocks during the day, but does not seem to fly much. I have seen injured specimens in the same place for several days consecutively.

C. S. GREGSON.

*Fletcher Grove, Stanley,
near Liverpool; July 1.*

SEASONABLE NOTES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Laverna Stephensi is now waiting to be caught on the trunks of very old oaks, but they require to be hunted for. They will sit still enough as long as they are only looked at, but they very cleverly evade a pill-box, when brought near them, by springing into the air, and then they make themselves scarce. This is the way they do if the weather be calm; if the wind blows they are not so mad, and feel as if they were under restraint, although always sitting at ease on the lee-side of the trees; they are then more easily taken, though I own it is difficult to induce such of them as lie *perdu* at the bottom of a chink to avail themselves of the proffered hospitality of a pill-box. I have an idea that the larvæ of this species are engaged on secret service (as usual for their own benefit only) in the old bark or wood of the oaks.

Ecophora lunaris, another of the diplomatic school, inasmuch as they keep themselves very much in the dark during their early life, is also to be seen in company with *L. Stephensi*, but not in any quantity; perhaps it may be against the family rules to show themselves much.

On the aspen or white poplar (perhaps I should say *and* instead of "*or*") *Gelechia nigra* now appears, not singly but in

companies. About an hour before dusk they run briskly from the crevices, where they lay previously, to other hiding-places on the trunk, moving with a shambling gait, after taking flight to the branches above. But if the wind blows they move little of their own accord, and are not easily induced to display their charms; and when they do stir they fly off at once—it will be your fault if not into your net. Zeller's name, *cautella*, signifying wary, active, is so applicable to this species that it is a pity it is superseded by Haworth's older but inexpressive name; the rule of priority, however, must be held inviolate.—J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee; July 15.*

ANTS' NESTS AND THE BEETLES THEREIN.

COMMUNICATED BY THE WIZARD OF THE
NORTH.

Bishop's Square, London,
May 20, 1999.

My dear Johnson,—I have just received your kind letter, and am sorry to say it proves entirely confirmatory of the statements in my communication of April the 1st.

Many thanks for your kind intention of filling up a gap in my collection of Formicidæ, by sending me eight supposed specimens of the wood ant: three of those which you suppose to be the females are *Ichneumons*, belonging to the genus *Pezomachus*, the other is a *Dicondylus*; the four which you call the workers are *Acari*. These errors must be expected to occur with, and are pardonable in, novices.

Since I last wrote to you I have had the good fortune to pick up a copy of Smith's 'Monograph of the Formicidæ and Fossores.' I will lend it to you with great pleasure. If you study it, you

cannot in future fail to recognise a Formica at once, should you have the good fortune to meet with one.

Your previous letter, informing me of the extinction of the wood-ant in Kent and Surrey, is, I fear, too near the truth. Should you ever be fortunate enough to be able to travel out of your own county, I will show you the well-wooded parts, which will much delight you.

You are probably not aware that, about the year 1859, people suffered much annoyance from a species of fly, which infested houses during the summer and autumnal months in immense numbers; hence it acquired the name of *Musca domestica*. We happily only know of it by tradition. In the course of my researches into the "ancient literature of Entomology," I have discovered the means whereby the total extinction of the pest was effected; it was by the use of what in those days were called "Catch'em-alive-O's."

I can furnish you with many equally well-authenticated accounts of the extermination of numerous pests which formerly existed. The collector to whom you allude as having lately discovered the head-quarters of a rare bee, is an old acquaintance of mine: I have seen his captures, and I find you have been quite misled by a name; the rarity proves to be a Lepidopterous insect, now rare, but formerly abundant; its name is *Sesia Bombyliiformis*. Being a novice in Science, you were no doubt deceived by the name.

I shall be most happy to smoke a friendly calumet with you, and intend shortly paying you a visit for that purpose,—in fact, immediately that I have finished a paper which I have in hand on the great ant-eater, *Myrmecophaga jubata*.

Believe me,
My dear Johnson,
Yours very sincerely,
STEVENSON POWERSON.

PS. As you usually subscribe to my little effusions, I have ventured to put your name down for a copy of the 'Ant-Eater.'

Proceedings of the Preston Natural History Society.—The President, Mr. J. B. Hodgkinson, exhibited an old but fine specimen of *Heliothis Scutosa*, which was taken near Carlisle, some twenty-five years ago, several specimens having been seen on the banks of the Solway by the Messrs. Rothwell, when at school; they were flying in the hot sunshine only; two were secured. Mr. Hodgkinson remarked that a third was taken by a man on a window, and given to his father. The late T. C. Heysham communicated to the President the capture of another specimen on the banks of the river near Dalston, probably by Mr. Cooper. Since that date the district has scarcely been visited; hence there is certainly no grounds for Mr. Doubleday to expunge it from his new List, because none have been taken for a number of years! Mr. J. J. Thornley exhibited *Polyommatus Agestis*, bearing the *Artaxerxes* character, the white spot being very prominently developed. Several specimens have been taken in the north district of Lancashire, near Grange.—J. J. THORNLEY, *Market Place, Preston; July 5.*

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London: John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster Row.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 148.]

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

LOCAL FAUNAS.

WE called attention last week to a work which had recently appeared on the Natural History of Huddersfield, in which twenty-eight pages are devoted to the Botany of the district, a complete list of the plants occurring there being given, with the localities of all the more local species.

A similar list is given of the Lepidoptera of the district, and as this extends to twenty pages, it must be a great boon to the entomologist residing near Huddersfield, several of whom have contributed their quota to swell the list.

We certainly deduce from the perusal of this list that Storthes Hall is a good locality; but we quite agree with the Editor that many Micros will yet reward a successful searcher there. For instance, we see no mention of our little friend *Asychna terminella*; yet there are damp woods at Storthes Hall, and *Circæa lutetiana* growing in them. If Mr. Inchbald, or any one else who has access to these woods, will critically examine the leaves of that plant towards the end of next

month we believe he will find the concentric, spiral mines of the little gem *Terminella*.

Again, *Ægopodium podagraria* is plentiful at Storthes Hall, and we entertain no doubt that *Chauliodus Illigerellus* is likewise domiciled there. We might multiply similar observations *ad nauseam*, but our desire has simply been to call the attention of the Huddersfield collectors to the fact that this list, serviceable as it is, is far from complete, and that, aided by the list of plants given in the volume, it ought to be an easy matter to add thirty or forty species to the list annually for some time to come.

At the same time we must caution the younger readers of the book not to believe every statement they see in print there; for instance, at p. 148, we read that of *Demas Coryli* the female is apterous; now this is either a mistake or an extraordinary effect produced on the species by the climate of Huddersfield. We are aware that soil and climate are apt to cause great variety in the colour and sometimes in the size of insects, and Mr. Wollaston has shown that in Madeira some species actually lose their wings, yet

we cannot fancy that the female of *Demas Coryli* really is apterous at Huddersfield, and we think the remark must have been intended for the species which follows, *Orgyia antiqua*.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

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At York, of Robert Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

MR. STANTON will be "at home" on Wednesday next, August 3, at 6 P.M., as usual.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—My address for the future will be—REV. HERBERT BREE, *Harkstead Rectory, near Ipswich; July 19.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having left 8, Church Street, Arlington Square, my address is now—JAMES BRYANT, 63, *Old Broad Street, London, E.C.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. S., K.—For collecting-boxes we can recommend no first-rate shop; for cork we recommend cork-cutters.

G. D.—Your insect is *Selenia Illunaria*, the summer variety; formerly called *Geometra Juliaria*.

Erratum.—In last week's 'Intelligencer,' p. 135, second column, line 5, for after read afterwards.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Capture of a singular Variety of Apatura Iris.—The upper surface is devoid of the white markings, as also the iris, with the exception of the white spots

near the tip of the superior wing; under side without the white band and eye-like spot, but there are traces of the band of a reddish colour, so that altogether it is a very extraordinary male variety. Its capture was effected by my son, a boy under fourteen years of age, on an oak, by means of the usual net for that purpose, as also two others; but, like some other Emperors of the present time, they had been engaged in a conflict, and he has a small bit out of the tip of his wing. I regret I cannot send you a sketch, but shall be happy to show it to any scientific gentlemen who may think it worth their while to come to see it.—JOHN TYRER, *Melville Hospital, Chatham*; July 23.

Deilephila Galii.—On Monday last, the 18th inst., I found a beautiful specimen of this insect at rest on a post, at Reach, a village, a few miles from here.—W. FARREN, *King's Old Gateway, Cambridge*; July 21.

Deilephila Galii.—One of my children last night captured a specimen of this insect on honeysuckle at dusk. Although unfortunately it is a very faded one, he considers the occurrence one of great importance.—REV. W. WHALL, *Thurning, near Oundle*; July 19.

Cosmia Fulvago.—In looking over my captures of the past year, I see I have a specimen of this insect, which was taken in Warwickshire, I believe in the month of June.—ARTHUR HENSMAN, *Spring Hill, Northampton*; July 23.

Pterophorus Ochrodactylus.—I have of late been taking this insect rather freely. In their flight they remind much of the crane-flies, and are truly fantastic-looking creatures.—WILLIAM HOLCROFT, *Upthorpe, Wigan*; July 19.

Captures near Abbey Wood.—On taking a trip to the above place we made the following captures:—

Hipparchia Hyperanthus. Most abundant, flying in swarms about every bramble-bush.

Thecla Quercus. Although very abundant I only caught nine, as they flew on the tops of the elms and oaks.

Vanessa Polychloros. One; saw three others.

Vanessa Atalanta. Plentiful.

Argynnis Adippe. Two, one of which kindly laid me five eggs.

Argynnis Paphia. Saw two.

—H. RAMSAY COX, 1, *Gloucester Villas, Lewisham High Road, S.E.*; July 18.

Captures of Larvæ.—On walking out this afternoon I found several batches of *Lychnis dioica* and *Silene inflata*, and succeeded in taking larvæ of *Dianthæcia Capsincola* and *Cucubali* and the beautiful little *Eupithecia Venosata*. The same night I took five specimens of *Acidalia Inornata*, three males and two females; one of the latter has laid a batch of eggs. Can any of the readers of the 'Intelligencer' inform me the plant they feed on, for I should be extremely obliged for any information on the subject, as I have a great desire to breed it from the egg.—J. BATTY, 133, *South Street, Park, Sheffield*; July 18.

Captures at Flowers.—On the evening of the 16th we visited a field covered with *Scabiosa Columbaria*, *Ononis arvensis*, &c., and found *Inopiana* abundant, together with plenty of a new brood of *Pyrausta purpuralis*, in splendid condition. The pretty little *Nematois Scabiosellus*, which had been abundant for some time, was still sitting in almost equal numbers on the flowers of the scabious, among which we also started a species of *Plume*, which is at present unknown to us. As it became dusk we observed some *Noctuæ* flitting before and settling on the flowers of the wood sage (*Teucrium Scrodonia*), and by sweeping and netting the moths as they appeared we managed to capture a fair number of *Noctuæ*. On getting home we found we had taken in this manner *Noctua Ditræpezium*! (in beautiful condition), some beautiful specimens of *Baja*, *Conigera*, *Morphcus*, *Cythere*.

rea, *Blanda*, &c. This is quite a new locality for the extremely local *Ditrapezium*, which I imagine will be with us the capture of the season: having turned it up we shall be on the *qui vive* for it the next week or so. It may perhaps prove useful to the readers of the 'Intelligencer' to know the attractions of the *Teuerium*, for when the moths *won't* come to sugar (and such I believe has universally been their conduct this season), a knowledge of their "peculiar vanity" is valuable. My brother found *Stenia punctalis* swarming, a few days since, on some cliffs near Braunton Burrows.—MURRAY A. MATHEWS, *Raleigh, near Barnstaple*; July 18.

Since writing the above we have met with *Noetua Dahlii* here, also at flowers.—IBID; July 22.

Captures near Deal, from the 3rd to the 20th of July.—

Colias Edusa (on the increase),
Argyris Aglaia,
Deilephila Galii (one flying in the hot sunshine),
Lithosia Complana,
 „ *Complanula*,
Spælotis Catalpa,
Eremobia Ochroleuca,
Plusia Orichalcea,
Odontia Dentalis,
Spilodes Sticticalis,
 „ *Palealis*,
Eriopsela Fractifasciana,
Stigmonota Lepastriana,
Argyrolepis Badiana,

with a number of common species. After this date correspondents will please to address their letters to my London residence. — H. J. HARDING, "*Noah's Ark*," *Peter Street, Deal*; July 23.

Captures at Bridge of Allan.—*Theela Quercus* has appeared abundantly here this summer, strange to say nearly all females (out of twenty-two specimens captured yesterday only three were males). *Lithosia Complanula* seems also

to be rather abundant; I found three specimens yesterday on nettle, drying their wings, just emerged from the pupæ. I have lately met with a pair of *Geometra Papilionaria* and one *Plusia Bractea*.—J. WINGATE, *Dunallan Cottage, Bridge of Allan*; July 22.

Captures near Lynmouth.—During a few weeks stay at Lynmouth, North Devon, I met with the following species:—

Colias Edusa (tolerably common),
Hipparchia Semele,
Cynthia Cardui,
Argynnis Aglaia (abundant),
 „ *Adippe*,
 „ *Selene*,
Melitæa Athalia,
Notodonta Ziczac (larvæ),
Euplexia Lucipara,
Caradrina Blanda,
Pseudopterna Cytisaria,
Asthena Luteata,
Acidalia Incanata (beaten from fern),
 „ *Imitaria*,
Larentia Olivaria (common),
Melanippe Galiata (do.)
 „ *Unangulata*,
Ypsipetes Elutata,
Eupithecia Pumilata (common),
Cidaria Picata (just out),
Eubolia Plumbcolaria,
Anaitis Plagiata,
Odezia Chærophyllata,
Aphomia Colonella,
Botys Terrealis (one specimen unfortunately much rubbed).

Nocturæ seem scarce this season. I did not sugar, but observed very few when nothing.—W. G. RAWLINSON, *The Chestnuts, Taunton*; July 21.

Captures in South Wales.—I have had the pleasure of seeing *Colias Edusa* flying over some fields here. I have as yet been unable to capture any, but hope to do so soon. *Grapta C-album* is almost as common as *Atalanta*. As far as I can see the present season seems likely to

rival, if not excel, the last, in the number of rare insects it produces. I have also captured here within the last month *Aporia Cratægi* and *Arge Galathea*.—J. B. FOWLER, *Llandaff Place, Llandaff, Cardiff, South Wales; July 19.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Acherontia Atropos.—Larvæ of this *Sphinx* promise to be still more abundant in this neighbourhood than they were last year, and have made their appearance earlier in the season. I have had several brought me, some of which are already about to undergo their change into the pupa state. I shall endeavour to profit by last year's experience in my treatment of pupæ of this species; and accordingly, when cold weather sets in, I shall place them in a moderate degree of artificial heat, for I found that last autumn at least five out of every six, if not a still greater proportion, had been forced on by the high temperature which prevailed till they had become so far developed as to be on the very point of assuming the perfect or imago state, when a low degree of temperature, which suddenly occurred, caused them to perish. Now there is little doubt but at this juncture the timely application, for a few days only, of artificial heat would have brought the whole number safely out.—S. STONE, *Brighthampton; July 18.*

Zeuzera Æsculi.—Having had a female of this insect sent me in a box, I found it had laid some eggs. I shall be much obliged if any person can inform me as to the time of hatching, and also the best plan of rearing the larvæ.—REV. GEORGE RUDSTON READ, *Sutton-on-Derwent; July 19.*

Eulepia Cribrum bred.—On the 12th of this month I had the great pleasure of finding in my breeding-cage a beautiful specimen of this insect; yesterday two

more and one to-day. The eggs were brought by my friend Mr. Hydes last July; they hatched the last week in that month. The larva is black and hairy, but when full-grown lead-colour down the back, with black shining warts on each segment; underneath and sides brown. It should be looked for in April or May amongst heath; it feeds at night. The first changed to pupa on the 21st of June.—THOMAS HAGUE, "*Dog and Partridge*," *Staleybridge; July 16.*

Bucculatrix maritima.—Yesterday I went over to Barnstaple from here, and, accompanied by Messrs. M. A. Mathews, G. F. Mathews and G. R. Crotch, visited some extensive salt marshes near there. The principal saline vegetation was *Aster tripolium*, *Plantago maritima* and *Statice limonium*. Never having had a good turn at a salt marsh before I went with tolerable expectations, which on the whole were certainly not disappointed. Nearly every leaf of the *Aster tripolium* was mined, and most leaves were marked by four or six mines at least; here then was an opportunity of working at *Bucculatrix maritima*. Three of the party were soon prostrate before the *Bucculatrix*, but that goddess was coy, and for some time nothing but empty mines rewarded her humble admirers. At length Mr. Crotch found a larva in cocoonet, preparing to part with its skin; this raised the hopes of the party, and after another hunt of two or three minutes a second larva, likewise in a horse-shoe form, was turned up. All this time, as the mines were in such profusion and all empty, we were racking our brains to solve the problem, why didn't we find the cocoons. Presently a feeding larva in its mine was detected; next an external-feeding larva was dislodged, and then several larvæ were observed in the act of feeding externally. According to my previous observations the May brood of this larva hardly ever feed externally, but continue to mine till they are full fed; the July brood have

evidently (at least on the banks of the Taw) a different habit, and much of their jaw-work on the leaves is performed from the outside. After we had been at work very nearly half an hour a cocoon was found, not on the *Aster*, but on a piece of grass. Then Mr. Crotch started a small *Coleophora*, which he wished to box; the *Coleophora* hopped about and crawled about, as those insects will, we of course intently watching its movements; it alighted on a rush stem, and crawled upwards, thereby attracting our attention to the point of the rush where there was a *Bucculatrix* cocoon. Indeed, we now found that the cocoons were on grass, or on rushes, but always near the tip; hence at least six inches higher up than were we had been looking for them, amongst the lower leaves of the *Aster*. We turned our attention to this phase of the subject, and had soon collected a hundred or so, and of course, had we wished, we could have got a thousand. The only other insects we noticed were *Gelechia instabilella*, *Crambus scissellus*, and a *Eupæcilia*, which was in excessive abundance, and which I presume must be either *Affinitana* or *Vectisana*.—H. T. STAINTON, *Glen Tor, Bideford*; July 26.

Wasps' Nests.—I have just read the concluding portion of Mr. Stone's paper on wasps' nests, and have derived much pleasure in so doing: it is full of minute and valuable information. I only demur to one assertion; I do so because it does not accord with my own observation of wasps, if I rightly understand the paragraph. At p. 85, Mr. Stone says, "The basis of the material employed is wood, one species using sound wood, another that which has become decayed." I should be obliged if Mr. Stone would name the species which uses *sound wood* and also that which uses *decayed wood*. I have noticed that *Vespa vulgaris* uses a different material, or I should rather say kind of material, in constructing the outer envelope of her nest, when the nest is an

under-ground one, to that which it uses when constructing it in an outhouse or other sheltered situation; but Mr. Stone's observation is new to me, if I am to understand him literally, as speaking of distinct *species*, not of different *individuals*.—FREDERICK SMITH, 27, *Richmond Crescent, Islington, N.*

EXCHANGE.

Bucculatrix maritima.—This insect is plentiful on some salt marshes near here, and is now in the pupa state. I shall be happy to forward cocoons to any gentleman who is desirous of breeding this interesting insect. Almost every leaf of the *Aster tripolium* here has been mined by several larvæ of this species, and there must be literally thousands of it on the marshes here.—G. R. CROTCH (at present stopping at) *Raleigh House, Pilton, near Barnstaple*; July 25.

N. Senex and *H. Uncana*.—My stock is exhausted. I have still left a few *L. pudorina* (good, but unset) and fine *E. Vespertaria*, also two or three females and ova of the latter. I have duplicates, varying in number, of the following (numbered as in the 'Manual') :—36, 37, 40, 60, 61, 64, 71, 89, 137, 141 (pupæ), 146 (ovæ), 159 (and ovæ), 180 (pupæ), 224, 233, 237, 258, 259, 273 (and ovæ), 295, 307, 310, 322, 329, 330, 336, 340, 352, 354, 356, 357, 360, 361, 364, 367, 368—370, 373, 376, 384, 410, 412, 413, 420, 426, 430, 431, 440, 461, 488, 495, 497, 608, 613, 628 (♂ & ♀), 634 (♂), 721, 761, 767, 791, 934. I should be glad, were it possible, to effect the transmutation of the foregoing, or some of them, into some of the following :—4, 20, 24, 42, 43, 51, 52, 54, 55, 58, 59, 62, 63, 69, 70, 86, 88, 90 to 102, 108—110, 113, 115—117, 119, 121—123, 125, 131—134, 136, 140—143, 151, 155, 157, 174, 175, 183,

192, 194, 202, 203, 207, 215, 221, 229, 230, 232, 235, 238, 241, 243, 244 to 253, 255, 264 to 270, 272, 275, 276, 279, 306, 311, 321, 323, 326, 327, 331, 334, 339, 345, 353, 355, 362, 375, 377, 378, 383, 385, 388, 394, 395, 399, 414, 417, 425, 435, 441, 442, 444—449, 452, 454 to 460, 463, 465, 466, 469, 484, 489, 492—494. My old correspondents, whom I shall be happy to supply, will probably note what I have to spare, as above.—J. BIRKS, *York; July 25.*

MR. WALTON ON CURCULIONIDÆ.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—Mr. J. Walton having placed in my hands forty copies of his paper on Curculionidæ, I have, at his request, forwarded them to as many Coleopterists as the limited number would supply; those who have received copies are solely indebted to the liberality of John Walton, Esq., of Bayard's Lodge, Knaresborough.

Yours, &c.,

F. SMITH.

*British Museum;
July 22.*

ENTOMO-LOGIC.

SCENE.—THE RECEIVING-ROOM AT A PROVINCIAL POST OFFICE.

Letter-carrier No. 1.—Hollo, Jem! here's a mess o' maggots in the bag!

No. 2.—Maggots! where? Ah! shoot 'em out here, and I'll just set my heel on 'em!

No. 3.—Stop, you! I know what they are; they are caterpillars for Mr. Blank, and have crept out of the box. Here, put 'em in this paper, and I'll carry 'em all right.

No. 1.—What does Mr. Blank do with them things?

No. 2.—Why, I guess he's a bit of a quack, and makes pills or salve on 'em, for he has a sight of pill-boxes sent him.

No. 3.—Salve—no! what do you think he's 'Olloway's Ointment-man? No; they comes into butterflies!

No. 1.—What do you mean by "they comes into butterflies?"

No. 3.—Why, butterflies comes out on 'em; he show'd me last Christmas, when I got my Christmas-box, drawers upon drawers full.

No. 2.—Pshaw! "they comes into butterflies!" and "butterflies comes out o' them!" Don't be poking fun at us, Bill!

E. T.

HOW TO KILL INSECTS.

The "gathering" sung in last week's news
For catching insects rare,
If you will once again peruse,
You'll find "behind the fair."

Pray listen to 't, and why I'll tell;
It speaks of killing flies
With "leaves!" and "formic" stuff as
well!

To every Ent.'s surprise.

Parade it to the Entom. class
With Triton power and skill,
An agent nothing can surpass
Will insects instant kill.*

For preservation too as well
This wondrous agent let me tell,
Five drops or ten of nothing but
Essential oil of cajeput.

W. H.

* For the field one or two drops at the bottom of a stoppered bottle creates an atmosphere of the agent sufficient to cause death.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

MITES.

WITH certain months we have certain associations. Thus, in December we think of *Pæcilocampa Populi*; in February of *Eriogaster Lanestris*; in April of *Endromis versicolora*; in July of *Apatura Iris*; but in August we think of mites. In August our setting-boards are sure to have more on them than we have placed there, and frequently they try our patience by operating on the wings and antennæ of our specimens. The basal joint of the antennæ of a *Micro* seems to be a regular tit-bit.

Now, if care be not taken, mites will be conveyed by us from the setting-board to the store-box; but they have no business to live in the store-box, if that is kept supplied with camphor. Camphor *will* evaporate, especially this hot weather, and though the proverb may not always be true, that "If Poverty comes in at the door, Love flies out of the window," it certainly is true that "if camphor all evaporates through one chink, mites will come in at another."

But is there no remedy? Yes, but the remedy is so simple,—*care and attention*. If the drawers be kept

supplied with camphor mites will never colonise there, and if we place no mity specimens in our drawers mites need never be seen there.

We lately saw a collection all order and neatness, and perfectly free from mites, though its owner had long since retired from the active pursuit of Entomology, and we were pleased at the sight. Since then we chanced to see a collection belonging to two active entomologists, but beneath nearly every fourth specimen was a little pile of dust, and mites were walking about the drawers,—mites of such portentous size that to our horror-struck eyes they looked like—crabs.

We do not like to dwell upon the subject—it is too painful; it reminds us so excessively of Dr. Kitchener's recipe for making pickled cucumber. Shall we parody that recipe for the instruction of the rising generation?

Collect insects carefully; search for them at morning, noon and night; toil for them in spring, summer, autumn and winter; care not for heat nor cold, for rain nor wind; persevere, collect, collect; set them out carefully; put out their legs and antennæ; and when you have toiled for years, and expended on them toil, time and talents—throw them to the mites!

We said we wrote this for the rising generation, but do such as proceed thus belong to it? Are they of those that *rise*? Should we not rather expect them to keep stationary, or even to fall backwards? Viewed in this light, a mity collection is a fearful sight!

For those unfortunate persons who possess mites in their collections, and are anxious to get rid of them (for alas! some persons show no anxiety on the subject), we give the following recipe, which we have always found infallible, and which was highly approved of by the late James Francis Stephens:

EQUAL PARTS OF OIL OF THYME, OIL OF ANISE AND SPIRITS OF WINE.

Let a drop of this be placed on the under side of a highly infected specimen; and let a drop or two be placed in each corner of the drawer and box. If we see mites again in a collection, we shall know that the owner does not object to their presence there, because if they were objectionable, they would not be allowed to be there.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained WHOLESALE of E. Newnan, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having left 2, Old Cambridge Terrace, my address is now—C. E. CHALLIS, 2, Binfield Place, Clapham Road, S.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. Mc. J.—We do not recognise your larva.

E. G.—*Ægon* is not a variety of *Alexis*. The moths begin in No. 4. Wood's 'Index Entomologicus' has the best coloured figures.

R. T.—*Acheta Campestris*. Your insect is probably the larva of one of the rarer *Acerida*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Colias Edusa and *Cynthia Cardui*.—Having travelled down the Great Western about a week after Mr. Galton (Intel. No. 147), I also noticed *Colias Edusa* all the way along the line, at intervals, from Didcot to Gloucester, also *Cynthia Cardui* occasionally. On the 23rd inst. I captured, in my hand, a specimen of *Macroglossa Stellatarum*, notwithstanding its swift flight: it is a good deal earlier than I noticed them last year.—J. E. OLLIVANT, Llandaff; July 25.

Limenitis Sibylla.—As the Isle of Wight is not mentioned in the 'Manual' as one of the localities of this insect, I thought it might be interesting to your readers to know that it is to be caught there. Yesterday, while I was out collecting, I caught two specimens in a wood about a mile this side of Brading. It is true they were in a very imperfect condition, but there was no mistake about their being *L. Sibylla*.—J. D. PINNOCK, Byam House, The Strand, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

Deilephila Galii.—On Tuesday last, the 26th inst., about 1 o'clock, p. m., I had

the pleasure of capturing a fine specimen of this insect, flying over a Petunia bed in our garden. Is it not rather an unusual occurrence to take it on the wing in the middle of the day?—LINNÆUS CUMMING, *Madingley Road, Cambridge; July 29.*

Deilephila Galii.—I took a worn specimen of this insect in my garden yesterday evening. It was hovering over a Verbena.—G. W. BRAIKENRIDGE, *Clevedon, Somerset; July 27.*

Deilephila Galii.—While stopping at Tunbridge Wells, about a fortnight ago, I had the pleasure of capturing a fine specimen of this insect, which flew into my room while I was at supper.—C. E. CHALLIS, 2, *Binfield Place, Clapham Road, S.; July 30.*

Acronycta Alni.—On the 30th of July I captured, at Morton (on hazel), a nearly full-fed larva of this species.—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough.*

Acronycta Alni.—I took a fine larva of *Acronycta Alni* this morning, crawling up an oak tree, whilst I was collecting *Laverna Stephensi.*—W. SIMMONS, *Wentworth Woodhouse, Rotherham; August 1.*

Heliothis Scutosa near *Poole.*—On Monday, the 11th inst., as I was out with my pupils collecting in this neighbourhood, one of them (Mr. D. A. Neilson) had the good fortune to capture a specimen of this insect, which is now in my possession.—REV. G. C. GREEN, *Parsonage, Hamworthy, near Poole; July 25.*

Acidalia Inornaria.—When at the "Brushes" sugaring, two weeks ago, I observed an *Acidalia* on the wing, the flight of which was quite unknown to me, consequently I secured all I could. On examining them by daylight they proved to be *Acidalia Inornaria*; they were plentiful; a few very fine, the others worn.—C. S. GREGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool; July 29.*

Gelechia maculiferella.—I have again met with this species, on the same bank I took it upon last year, at Wallasey Sand Hills, whilst looking for *Gelechia*

fumatella; hitherto they had always been taken together, and I regret to say both sparingly.—IBID.

Captures near Poole, Dorset.—During the present season I have made the following captures:—

Colias Edusa. Several already; first seen June 19.

Arge Galathea. Abundant.

Hipparchia Semele. Do.

Argynnis Paphia.

„ *Adippe.* Several.

„ *Aglaia.* Do. One var. with the fore wings almost black, with spots very pale and almost a metallic lustre, even on the upper surface.

„ *Selene.* Abundant.

Thecla Quercus. Do.

„ *Rubi.* Do.

Polyommatus Argiolus. Two, one on March 19.

„ *Ægon.* Most abundant.

Thymele Alveolus. A few. One var. with fore wings almost white.

Anthrocera Trifolii.

„ *Filipendulæ.*

Cerura Vinula.

Pygæra Bucephala.

Mitochondria Miniata. One.

Lithosia Complana.

Cybosia Mesomella.

Nudaria Mundana.

Euthemonia Russula.

Arctia Villica. Abundant.

Gastropacha Quercifolia. Two; one bred; one at light.

Fumea Radiella.

Triphæna Interjecta.

Eremobia Ochroleuca.

Anarta Myrtilli.

Heliodes Arbuti.

Stilbia Anomala.

Phytometra Ænea.

Epione Apiciaria.

Pseudoterpna Cytisaria.

Macaria Notata.

And many others, some rare, some common, which would take too long a space

to enumerate.—REV. G. C. GREEN, *Parsonage, Hamworthy, near Poole*; July 25.

Captures at Southport.—During the past week I have taken the following species at Southport:—

Hipparchia Semele (abundant),
Argynnis Aglaia (common),
Macroglossa Stellatarum (common
on larkspur).

I saw a fine specimen of *Deilephia Galii*, which had been captured last summer in Birkdale Park—J. C. HUDSON, *Crescent, Salford*; July 25.

Captures at Ambleside and other Places near Keswick.—From the 6th of June to the 5th of July I spent in the neighbourhood of the above two places, and the following is a list of my captures during that time:—

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| E. Cassiope, | P. Iota, |
| C. Davus, | Chrysis, |
| M. Artemis, | A. Urticæ, |
| A. Aglaia, | Triplasia, |
| C. Porcellus, | E. Mi, |
| Elpenor, | Glyphica, |
| P. Staticeæ, | P. Ænea, |
| E. Jacobææ, | P. Octomaculalis, |
| L. Mesomella, | Cingulalis, |
| E. Russula, | Purpuralis, |
| T. Rubi, | M. Margaritaria, |
| H. Velleda, | E. Dolabraria (one |
| Hectus, | beat out of oak. |
| D. Cucubali, | N. Pulveraria, |
| H. Dentina, | A. Plagiaria, |
| Pisi, | V. Macularia, |
| C. Umbratica, | M. Hastaria. |
| A. Myrtilli, | |

AT SUGAR.

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| A. Ligustri (1), | N. Brunnea, |
| Rumicis, | S. Angur, |
| M. Strigilis, | A. Nebulosa, |
| X. Lithoxylea, | Herbida, |
| R. Tenebrosa, | E. Lucipara. |
| N. Festiva, | |

—F. BUCKRON, 6, *Beech Grove Terrace, Leeds*; July 11.

COLEOPTERA.

Bark and Wood-boring Beetles.—During the present season, commencing from April last, I have investigated any old trees, rotten wood, &c., which I met with, and from the success that has attended my operations, I earnestly recommend others to do the same. The following are a few of the insects I have taken in this way:—In April, from recently felled timber, *Tomicus laricis*? crawling over the newly-barked oak trunks, and *Hylesinus furcatus* running out from and flying in swarms around its holes in the same trees. In Tilgate Forest, under the bark of an old oak-stump, I found several fine specimens of *Rhagium inquisitor*; and from boleti, growing on an old beech, specimens of *Bitoma crenata*. In May, from rotten wood, specimens of *Melanotus fulvipes*; and from hurdles *Latridius lardarius*, *transversus*, *porcatus*, &c., *Corticaria gibbosa* and *fuscata*; several *Cryptophagi*, *Throscus dermestoides*, &c. In June, from rotten fir-wood, several species of *Brachelytra*, amongst which I recognised the pretty *Baptolinus alternans*. On the 1st of this month I was at Mickleham, and failed not to visit the old palings opposite the "Running Horse," where I found *Ptinus licheneum* out and waiting for me: it seems a most sluggish insect, as I did not see any further than a few inches from their holes, sitting still as the wood itself. *Anobium striatum* was also there in plenty, and a specimen of *Salpingus planirostris* represented the *Heteromera*: this latter species seems fond of hurdles, as I have swept it from them very often. My method of sweeping hurdles is with a hand-broom into an inverted umbrella, and I have found it very successful. Last year I took in this way several specimens of *Abdera 4-fasciata*, *Salpingus planirostris*, *Sphaeriestes 4-pustulatus*, &c. Although a broom would not improve the personal appearance of an entomologist, it would, I doubt not, improve his collection, and

I strongly recommend its use. Only let the want of such an instrument be known, and we should probably have pocket-brushes of various sorts made for the use of collectors. Within the last three weeks I have taken *Lyctus oblongus*, *Rhyzophagus dispar*, *Tomicus fuscus*, &c., from an old oak stump, and from boleti *Cis boleti*? and *nitidus*, &c.—THOMAS LINNELL, *Redstone Wood, near Reigate, Surrey; July 25.*

Wimbledon.—The following *Geodephaga* have been taken here by me since last notice:—

Pterostichus lepidus,

Synuchus vivalis,

Pogonus chalcens,

Amara consularis,

„ *orichalcica*.

I have also again found *Notiophilus rufipes* and *Stenolophus dorsalis*, but only solitary examples of each. *Anchomennus 6-punctatus* has occurred at intervals from the very beginning of April to the very end of June; the later specimens of course much tarnished, like oxydized metal. Query, whether many of the so-called dark *vars.* of this species may not often be nothing but old staggers?—E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Acidalia Inornata.—Since I last wrote my eggs of this species have hatched, and the young larvæ appear to be feeding famously, on poplar and willow; so that, if they still go on feeding, I hope to give more particulars shortly.—JAMES BATTY, 133, *South Street, Park, Sheffield; July 25.*

Note on Anarta Myrtilli.—On the 7th of July, 1859, when walking over Croagh-an Mountain, County Wicklow, I saw several specimens of this insect flying over the heath in their usual rapid manner. As I had not met with the

species in Ireland before, I was anxious to catch some specimens for my collection; but, after an hour spent in trying to capture them as they flew past, I began to despair of capturing any but a very much battered specimen, which I had caught at first. One would appear coming straight for me, and when I was all alive to get a stroke as it passed, off it would whisk out of the reach of the net. When nearly worn out, and thoroughly disgusted with both the moths and myself, I observed one stop and buzz over a piece of heather, and as I was gently stealing up to it another joined it and commenced to hover over the same piece. Ho! Ho! thinks I, here is some attraction, and the best thing I can do is to take my stand near that piece of heath. Having done so, I in a very short time captured as many specimens as I wished without any difficulty, sometimes catching two in the net at once. Every specimen that passed at the lee-side came to investigate this piece, when they were easily taken as they hovered over it. I thought the object of attraction must be a virgin female concealed amongst the herbage, but could find nothing when I examined the spot; and in order to find out what could entice them to this place I stood quiet, and left several specimens to pursue their investigations unmolested, while I watched their movements. Some of them contented themselves with a very cursory examination, merely buzzing for a few moments round the spot, and then whisking off out of sight; but others were more particular in their investigation; they alighted on the heath, and crept to what appeared to me a dry piece of stick, and having walked round it and examined it on all sides off they also flew. Having fully satisfied myself, after watching a great many moths, that this apparent piece of stick was the object of attraction I examined it more closely, and found it to be the dead body of a moth; wings were gone and legs were gone, so that it was

impossible to say what species of moth it had been, but from its size it most likely had been *A. Myrtilli*; from its bleached and dried appearance it must have been dead more than a year, and yet this dry carcase enabled me to catch as many specimens of this lively little species as my boxes would contain in a very few minutes. I regret that at the time I did not think of trying whether a fresh corpse possessed the same power of attraction.—REV. JOHN BRISTOW, *Tinahely, County Wicklow*; July 27.

Peronea Shepherdana.—I have bred this species from larvæ found in Wicken Fen, feeding in the young shoots of *Spiræa Ulmaria*. Larva green, with brownish patches down the back.—THOMAS BROWN, 13, *King's Parade, Cambridge*; July 27.

EXCHANGE.

Deilephila Euphorbiæ in Jersey.—We have a limited supply of larvæ of this species, which we shall be happy to exchange for—

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| A. Iris, | L. Dictæa, |
| M. Athalia, | Dictæoides, |
| T. Betulæ, | H. Dominula, |
| S. Paniscus, | N. Plantaginis, |
| D. Galii, | D. Orion, |
| S. Fuciformis, | A. Lunigera, |
| Apiformis, | D. Rubiginea, |
| T. Culiciforme, | Heliothis (any), |
| Formicæforme, | A. Cordigera, |
| P. Plumigera, | G. Papilionaria. |

There are many rare insects not in this list which would also be very acceptable; but parties not adhering to it should certainly write before despatching them, for we cannot otherwise undertake to reply.—F. P. & E. R. JOHNSON, *Woodburn, St. Saviour's, Jersey*.

Callimorpha Jacobææ.—We shall be happy to supply larvæ of this species to

any gentleman, on receipt of a suitable box with return postage.—C. & J. FENN, *Mr. G. Bartlett's, Thames Ditton, Surrey*; July 26.

Notodonta Larvæ.—I have some larvæ of *N. Ziczac*, but am in want of a few more to keep them company. I have larvæ of *N. Dromedarius* to offer in exchange to any person who may have some to spare, and will pay postage both ways.—J. STEELE, *High Street, Congleton*; July 26.

Phyllocnistis Suffusella.—I shall be happy to supply applicants with either larvæ or pupæ of this species.—THOMAS BROWN, 13, *King's Parade, Cambridge*; July 27.

Exchange.—I have *Acherontia Atropos*, and will exchange a pair for a pair of *Apatura Iris* or *Sphinx Convolvuli*. Mine were reared from the pupæ, and are in excellent condition, and the insects I receive must also be in fine condition. Gentlemen wishing to exchange had better write before sending, to prevent disappointment. I have pupæ of *Agriopsis Aprilina*, and persons in want of it may have it sent by sending a small box and return postage.—W. CULVERWELL, *Thorp Perrow, Bedale, Yorkshire*; July 29.

Stock exhausted.—I have more applicants for larvæ of *Sphinx Ligustri* than I can supply. To those who do not receive larvæ this week I will return the postage stamps sent, without the box, as some have got broken in the post, and most of them are not worth what they will cost posting back, unless I hear to the contrary before the 10th of August.—W. H. TAYLOR, *Tolson Street, Sunny Bank, Leeds*; July 26.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

PARASITIC BEETLES.

As it is probable some of the readers of the 'Intelligencer' may incline to

follow the instructions of Mr. Stone for rearing and observing wasps, may I draw their attention to the fact that *Rhipiphorus paradoxus* is a resident in their nests, and that we should be glad of the insect as well as an account of its economy.

To the investigators of the habits of hornets it may not be amiss to say that *Velleius dilatatus*, one of our rarest Staphylinidæ, is a parasite in their nests. The Rev. J. S. Henslow published in the 'Zoologist' for 1849 (Zool. 2584), an account of the method he used in the rather more than ticklish business of taking the nests of the hornets. He says, "Neither myself nor assistants were stung, though we took more than six hornet-nests, with no other precaution than the active use of a butterfly-net, one person working while the others stood guard. The hornets often flew directly at us, but by standing perfectly still, and gently waving the net, they were always persuaded to change their aim, and were caught or killed accordingly." So much for the danger of taking the nest. Respecting the parasites he says, "I took about thirty or forty specimens of the *Velleius* from the hornet's nest by placing a bowl under it, into which most of them fell within a month of the time after it had been brought home; most of them were placed in a glass-jar among rotten wood in a powdered state. They burrowed in this, and I could see many of them alive in March, each in a separate cavity which he had formed for himself against the bottom inside of the jar. I am sorry, or rather ashamed to say, that my own care for their welfare destroyed them. Thinking they were getting too dry, I poured in a little water once or twice, and after an absence of three or four

days, on one occasion, I found they were dead." This experience will be a guide to whoever may have the good fortune to find and obtain a hornet's nest containing larvæ of *Velleius*, but it strikes me as being extremely probable that some of the perfect insects might be found about the nests *in situ*, at this time of the year. In one way or the other it is surely practicable to obtain specimens of this fine and rare Staph.

In the nests of the common bee, *Anthophora retusa*, often formed in old walls, dwells another beetle, *Sitaris humeralis*. Mr. S. Stevens once found it at Hammersmith, and Mr. Westwood took several specimens in Oxfordshire, in or about the nests of the *Anthophora*; but it is still one of our rarities, probably only because its habitat has not been sufficiently investigated. — J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee*; July 29.

WAKEFIELD NATURALISTS' SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir, — I have pleasure in informing you that it was decided in April last, by persons interested in the various branches of Natural History, to form a Society in this town, to be called the "Wakefield Naturalists' Society," which, I am glad to say, now numbers twenty-one Members.

We hold our meetings on the first and third Thursdays in each month from April to September, and the third Thursday in each month from October to March, at the house of Mr. W. Talbot (our President), whose name is well known to the readers of the 'Intelligencer.' We have every prospect of forming a good Society.

The following is copied from the minutes of our Meeting, held on the 7th instant:—

Mr. George Lumb exhibited a fine specimen of *Deilephila Galii*, taken at rest by a boy in a field at St. John's, Wakefield.

Mr. W. Nelson exhibited very fine specimens of *Metrocampa Margaritata*, taken at Haw Park, near Wakefield.

Thyatira Batis has been so plentiful in the same locality that Messrs. Talbot and Roberts captured at sugar 221 in three nights. A great number of other specimens of the same insect have been taken by myself and other Members of the Society.

Mr. W. Bennett reported having captured several specimens of *Drepana Falcutaria* and *Melanthia Albicillata*, and many other commoner insects.

H. S. ROXBY, *Hon. Sec.*

Wakefield; July 27.

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|-------------------|----|----|-------|
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| H. Dominula . . | 0 | 6 | ... |
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| A. Caliginosa . . | 2 | 0 | ... |

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Printed and published by EDWARD NEWMAN, Printer, of No. 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Without, London, in the County of Middlesex.—Saturday, August 6, 1859.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 150.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

CASES.

SINCE the time when Réaumur so completely broke the ice on the subject of case-making larvæ, these creatures have always received a certain amount of attention from entomologists; but yet, even only twenty years ago, we do not find that any entomologist had attained to the knowledge of this subject which Réaumur had possessed more than a century back.

But the progress which has been made in the study of the case-making larvæ of the genus *Coleophora*, since 1839, has been prodigious. From 1839 to 1849 the progress was great, but from 1849 to 1859 it has been far greater. Is it still to proceed at an increasing ratio?

We have been led to these considerations by the reflection that the fourth volume of the 'Natural History of the Tineina' is now published, and this volume is entirely devoted to the genus *Coleophora*; and, so far from this exhausting the subject, it will be followed by another volume on the same genus.

The discoveries made during the past year have not been unimportant; the habit of the larva of *Coleophora binotapennella* is quite peculiar, and the

occurrence of larvæ of *C. fuscocuprella* in the vicinity of London shows that the metropolitan district is not yet fully explored.

In 1849 it was held that *Goniodoma* differed from *Coleophora* mainly in the larva quitting the case in order to assume the pupa state. Now it has been found that the larva of a species allied to *Annulatella* quits its case and enters the ground, and Mr. Scott has remarked that the larvæ of *Binotapennella* actually form silken tubes to some depth in the ground, leaving the empty case erect above its retreat, like a tombstone, on which we can quite fancy we read the inscription—

"Here lies *Coleophora binotapennella*."

Salt marshes will no doubt be well ransacked this autumn for the larva of this species, and perhaps some further observations of interest may yet be made on the habits of the larva of *Binotapennella*.

The case of *Binotapennella* reminds one of an ancient bark canoe; it is scarcely a work of art; the larva has hollowed out a stem by eating it, and has then adopted this tubular stem for a case. There seems no similarity whatever between such a simple contrivance as this and the elegant and

ornamental case of *Lugduniella* (which our readers will find figured on Plate 8 of the new volume); one might as well compare a savage's dress of untanned skins with a fashionable lady's dress of silk, all braided and flounced. In the human species we are apt to fancy that the difference arises from the progress of civilisation.

Perhaps those who believe in the transmutation of species will be prepared to assure us that, in the course of ages, after hundreds of thousands of years, if we were to revisit the Brighton coast in pursuit of the larva of *Binotapennella*, we should find that that species had developed itself into something else, and impelled by the progress of civilisation and a desire for bettering itself, implanted in the breast of every *Coleophora* larva, had adapted a new fashion of case and entirely changed its habits.

"One might speculate," remarks Owen, "on the gradual modifiability of the individual; on the tendency of certain varieties to survive local changes, and thus progressively diverge from an older type; on the production and fertility of monstrous offspring—but to what purpose? Past experience of the chance aims of human fancy, unchecked and unguided by observed facts, shows how widely they have ever glanced away from the gold centre of truth."

W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.
 RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. T.—We presume you have obtained a dark variety of *Typha*; most of the *Nonagriæ* have what one may term a black variety. *Acrida viridissima*.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Variety of Apatura Iris.—A notice of the capture of a variety of *A. Iris* having appeared in No. 148 of the 'Intelligencer,' perhaps it may not be uninteresting to state that, during the seasons of 1857 and 1858, three specimens of the same variety (named by Guenée *Beræ*) were taken in this neighbourhood. I was not without hope that it would again visit us in 1859, but I am sorry to add that not only has *Iris* been exceedingly rare this season, but the same has been the case with most spring-feeders in this locality. Seven specimens of *Iris* are all that have been netted here, to which may be added a single female, bred from a larva which I obtained after several hours' beating; an equal amount of labour in search of *Pruni* was repaid with a similar result; altogether the small number of larvæ that answered the click of the beating-stick was highly ominous of the future.—W. STURGESS, Kettering; August 2.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
 WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of

Pieris Daplidice.—Information has reached me of the capture of this insect by a juvenile, near Walmer. "Young Barnes" will understand why I do not mention the captor's name.—H. T. STAINTON; *August 6*.

Pieris Duplidice.—I had the pleasure of capturing a fine specimen of this insect, on the 1st of August, at Kingsdown, Kent. From its freshness it could not have been long out.—H. J. HARDING, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch; *August 6*.

Deilephila Galii.—Six larvæ of this species have been taken at Hackney, feeding on Fuchsias.—IBID.

A large Chrysophanus Phlæas.—My brother captured this species (size 1" 7") last week, at Redcar. The insect had two tails on the hind wings; the tail is rather more than 1" long.—CHARLES WILLIS, *Guisborough; August 1*.

Madopa Salicalis.—We have much pleasure in recording the capture of the rare *M. Salicalis*, which we took in Shooter's Hill Wood, on the 11th of June last.—T. & A. JONES, 11, Victoria Road, Old Charlton, S.E.; *August 5*.

Stauropus Fagi.—Yesterday I took a half-fed larva of this species, feeding on the wild rose. It is quite a diabolical looking animal, and if I had not known what it was I certainly should not have touched it.—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple; August 3*.

Captures near Kettering.—The following meagre list contains my principal captures this season:—

Argynnis Paphia,
Arge Galathea,
Apatura Iris,
Vanessa Polychloros,
Melitæa Euphrosyne,
Thecla Pruni,
,, Quercus,
Polyommatus Arion (Barnwell),
Thymeles Alveolus,
Pamphila Sylvanus,
,, Linca,

Thanaos Tages,
Anthrocera Filipendulæ,
Smerinthus Tiliæ (bred),
,, Ocellatus (do.),
,, Populi,
Sphinx Ligustri (bred),
Sesia Fuciformis,
Pterostoma Palpina (bred),
Lophopteryx Camelinæ,
Psilura Monacha,
Porthesia Chrysorrhæa,
Miltiochrista Miniata,
Lithosia Stramineola,
,, Griseola,
Nudaria Mundana,
Eriogaster Lanestris (bred),
Bryophila Perla,
Hydræcia Nicticans,
Tæniocampa Leucographa,
,, Munda,
Cucullia Verbasci (bred),
Plusia Iota,
Amphipyra Pyramidea (bred),
Phorodesma Bajularia, &c.

—W. STURGESS, *Kettering; August 2*.

Captures in Hants.—From the 7th to the 31st of last month I caught, in Hampshire, the following insects:—

Colias Hyale (1),
Polyommatus Ægon (59),
,, Corydon (3),
,, Agestis (1),
Hipparchia Semele (6),
Leucophasia Sinapis (4),
Arge Galathea (2),
Argynnis Paphia (6),
,, Aglaia (1),
,, Adippe (1),
Hemithea Cythisaria (17).

On the 2nd of this month I captured here one specimen of *P. Ornata*. *Atropis* seems to be as common or commoner this year than last.—R. E. TRYE, *Leckhampton Court; August 4*.

Captures near Durham.—I visited Castle Eden Dene on the 30th of July, and found *Erebia Blandina* well out; during the day I took ninety specimens, five only of which were females. I need

scarcely say the season is as early here as elsewhere. During the past season I have also taken the following species:—

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| P. Alsus, | P. Statices, |
| Artaxerxes, | M. Hastaria, |
| A. Selene, | T. Batis, |
| Aglaia, | B. Consortaria, |
| M. Artemis, | P. Sylvanus, |
| H. Hyperanthus, | O. Sambucaria, |
| Semele, | P. Salmacis,† |

and many others not worth troubling you to mention. I have most of these in duplicate, which I shall offer later in the season. I took one specimen of *Pamphila Sylvanus* on a railway-bank at Skelcliffe, on the 15th of June; it is the only one known to have been taken in the county of Durham.—JOHN WILSON, jun., *Coulson's Buildings, Hallgarth St., Durham; August 2.*

Captures of Lepidoptera.—I had several days in Cumberland, and paid a visit to the most noted localities, as I felt anxious to capture over again species that I used to take when a boy, and some twelve years ago took abundantly. What a change! this season, indeed, it does not apply to Cumberland only, for in this neighbourhood there is absolutely nothing to be got. My father and I, in company with Mr. Greening, of Keswick, went to look for *Lobophora sexualisaria* and *Emmelesia Tenebraria*; none to be found, nor anything else. On Skiddaw we only saw *Harpalyce Galiaria* and *Cæsaria*, *Gelechia Politella* in plenty, and a specimen, a great height up, of *Hemithea Cythisaria*; on the crest we “raked” the banks for *Agrotis Ripæ*; nothing visible but common *Caradrina* and *Triphæna Pronuba*. To Newby Cross we paid two journeys; the first, after a deal of thumping, only yielded three *Nephopteryx Abietella*, and two days thrashing the lichen boughs, in Barron Wood, with sticks four yards long, only turned up one *Cleora Glabraria*; in former years I have taken three score in less time: in fact, no *Geometra* to be beaten out. Of *Blomeraria*, in this dis-

trict, I only met with three bad specimens this year. *Interrogationis* I only hear of, not a dozen specimens having been taken. I have met with a few fine *Crambus Contaminellus*, *Selasellus* and *Perlellus*? Can this be identical with the species I took in June, the *Argentellus* variety? those I take on the salt-marshes now are certainly very queer ones; in some of them the silver streaks are entirely wanting. I may remark that I paid two visits to the *Scutosa*-ground, and found the plant upon which the larva is said to feed (wormwood) growing in plenty there still. I forgot to note that in my travels I met with *Triphæna Subsequa* and *Coccyx Internana*. — J. B. HODGKINSON, 11, *Bispham Street, Preston.*

Captures near Dublin, in July.—

Dosithea Eburnaria.

Spilodes Sticticalis.

Lotria Sinuella.

Agrotis Tritici. Abundant on ragwort flowers.

„ *Valligera.* Do.

„ *Fumosa.* Do.

Leucania Conigera. Do.

Hydræcia Nicticans. Do.

Cerapteryx Graminis. Do.

Pyrausta Cæspitalis. Lumbay Island.

—EDWIN BIRCHALL, *Dublin; Aug. 8.*

Doings in Ireland.—Being on a visit to Waterford, in the South of Ireland, I enquired if there were any lovers of Natural History in those parts; the only one I could hear of was a Dr. Burkitt, a name well known to ornithologists for his captures (the great auk and gold-vented thrush), presented to the Dublin Museum many years since. It was very lamentable to find among 30,000 inhabitants in one city only one man at all conversant with Natural History, and that the sight of an insect-net recalled to the Irish mind the story of a bow which had been dropped by a lady once in the neighbourhood, returning from an archery meeting, and which was for some years kept as a great curiosity by its captor, an Irish farmer,

who declared "it was a snake he had killed when it was dead, and had knocked the brains out by driving over it," and was finally presented to a local Museum, as a real *bona fide* Irish snake. I visited Dr. Burkitt and found a very few small cases of Lepidoptera and Coleoptera, pinned and set in the old English style, so familiar to our forefathers, and which doubtless greatly increased the difficulty of correctly determining their species. Amongst them were *Deilephila Lineata* and a *Noctua* which I could not then determine, but which I now believe to be *Agrotis Valligera*. The record of the capture of the Sphinx was as follows, in the note-book of the doctor:—"D. Galii. Taken at rest, Newtown Hill, Tramore, about sunset, in the autumn of 1856." It is, however, *D. Lineata*. Of the *Agrotis*, "Taken at rest near the edge of the rocks, Newtown Cove, Tramore, June, 1852 or '53." These were the only interesting Lepidoptera, except perhaps *Sphinx Convolvuli*, of which he possessed a specimen. He added to my box a specimen of *Cetonia Aurata*, a beetle which he affirmed to have been exceedingly rare till within the last few years, when he had obtained about half a dozen. A few days after my visit to the doctor I went to Tramore, and visited the sand-hills, and was repaid by the capture of *Mamestra Abjecta* and *Leucania Littoralis*, occurring in some plenty, but from want of opportunity could only take very few. *Euphorbia Paralias* grows there very freely, and it seemed to me a very likely spot for *D. Euphorbiae* to inhabit. From Waterford I went on to Killarney for a few days, and observed the following insects, some of which, I believe, are new to the Irish list:—

Euchelia Jacobææ. The larvæ in great plenty on the ragwort, several in every head.

Emmelesia Blandiaria. Pretty common on high lands.

Acidalia Immutata. Freely on bog-land.

„ *Inornata*. A single specimen.

Larentia Salicata. In the Gap of Dunloe, Killarney.

Eupithecia Satyrata. A single specimen at flight.

„ *Denotata*. Do.

„ *Constrictata*. Do.

Cidaria Populata. Common on high lands.

I had but little time for observation, and none for working, so can give but little detail. But should any collector be resident for a time at Waterford, and pay a few visits to Tramore, I have no doubt but that at both places he will find much to repay his labour. At Killarney I heard from the carmen that a gentleman and his wife had lately been there with insect-nets, and had offered two guineas to any one who would bring them the "white moth." From the way in which the carmen spoke they evidently believed the whole thing to be the jest of an insane person, and were much astonished when I asserted the truth of the value of the insect. How many white butterflies were brought them I did not hear.—A. WALLACE, M.B. Oxon., 23, Bedford Place, Russell Square, W.C.; August 2.

List of Tineina taken near Brockenhurst, in the New Forest, during May and June.—

Oechsenheimeria Bisontella. End of June; rare.

Tinea Corticella. June.

„ *Parasitella*. June; flying on rotten wood.

„ *Granella*. End of May.

„ *Flavescentella*. End of June.

„ *Lappella*. June.

„ *Ochraceella*. June; one specimen.

Incurvaria Pectinea. May and beginning of June.

„ *Capitella*. June.

Micropteryx Seppella. May and June.

Micropteryx Thunbergella. May; on trunks of firs and oaks.

„ *Subpurpurella*. May.

Nemophora Metaxella. June.

Adela Rufimitrella. May.

„ *Sulzella*. End of May.

Nemotois Cupriacellus. June.

Swammerdamia Apicella. May and June.

„ *Griseocapitella*. June.

Scythropia Cratægella. May.

Enicostoma Lobella. June.

Gelechia Humeralis. May.

„ *Alcella*. May.

„ *Leucatella*. June.

„ *Ligulella*. End of June; common.

Ypsolophus Fasciellus. May and June; three specimens.

Dasycera Oliviella. End of May.

Æcophora Flavifrontella. End of May and June.

Butalis Grandipeunis. End of June.

Glyphipteryx Thrasionella. Common on rushes; June.

„ *Fischeriella*. Common in May and June.

Gracilaria Triugipennella. June.

„ *Auroguttella*. June.

Coleophora Albicosta. End of May and June.

„ *Ibipennella*. One bred from oak in June.

Cosmopteryx Drurella. Two among bramble; no hops within a great distance.

Chrysoclista Flavicaput. Among hawthorn; May and June.

Besides the above I have many which I do not know.—W. FARREN, *King's Old Gateway, Cambridge*.

COLEOPTERA.

Amara orichalceæ.—In June I took a specimen of *Amara orichalceæ*, Müll., on the sand-hills at Birkdale, and not feeling quite happy with only one specimen, I have since devoted a little time to this insect, and this week I took two more on Crosby sand-hills by pulling up the moss,

grass, &c., and shaking it into a newspaper.—C. S. GREGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool*; August 3.

Geodephaga at Barnstaple.—I send you a further list of the *Geodephaga* which I have taken in this neighbourhood since the former list appeared in the 'Intelligencer' (No. 156, pp. 43, 44):—

Cicindela maritima (taken),

Demetrias atricapilla,

Dromius melanocephalus,

Dyschirius globosus,

„ *salinus*,

Carabus violaceus,

Leistus ferrugineus,

Nebria complanata (taken),

Elaphrus uliginosus (3),

Notiophilus palustris,

Chlæuius nigricornis,

Auchomenus micans,

Brosicus cephalotes,

Amara familiaris,

„ *oricalceæ*,

Harpalus pubescens,

„ *anxius*,

Trechus miututus,

Bembidium laterale,

„ *obtusum*,

„ *deccorum*,

„ *monticulum*,

„ *tibiale*,

„ *ustulatum*,

„ *quadriguttatum*,

„ *articulatum*,

„ *pallidipenne*.

—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; August 3.

OBSERVATIONS.

Nonagria Typhæ.—In feeding on the interior of *Typha latifolia*, the larva are not contented with one plant, as many I have observed to be entirely void of larvæ or pupæ, and eaten up to the very top, where a round hole is visible, clearly showing the place of exit; in these no hole is visible near the bottom. In others

having a large hole near the bottom, where the larva has entered after quitting the old plant, I have invariably found either a larva or pupa, the latter with the head downwards. On coming to a knot in the stem the larvæ always pass transversely, in an oblique direction, through the knot, blackening the side of the stem opposite to that of the division below. I never observed one to deviate from this rule when feeding on *T. latifolia*, though in *T. angustifolia* they eat straight up. I have found many mines in the latter plant, though only one pupa. The forsaken stems are the habitat of a small species of *Staphylinus*, an *Oxytelus*? abundant in some, but occurring only singly in others.—R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Ege*; August 6.

Morphology in Sialis lutarius.—Since I have been directing attention to the Neuroptera of this neighbourhood a curious case of morphology has fallen into my hands in the above insect. The morphology is on the right side. The insect, as is well known, in its normal state, has four wings; now this has five, or at least the rudiments of a fifth, the rudimental one being placed rather high up above the anterior one on the right side, the proper wing being bent into rather a sharp angle near its base, giving the nerves an elbowed appearance. The anterior wing, in its normal condition, should have twelve transverse antecubical nervures; now this, on the morphological side, has but nine, and the rudimentary wing has three and a half transverse nervures, but placed on the opposite side approaching the sectors in form and disposition in the Libellulinae, thus making up for those wanting in the normal condition of the wing. This shows that Dame Nature is not lavish in her materials, of which she builds up the fabrics and structures of the insect world; in fact, it shows the strictest economy that can possibly be pursued. Not having heard of a similar case of mor-

phology, I should like to know, through the pages of the 'Intelligencer,' if any of these deviations from the normal form have been observed before in the Neuroptera.—E. PARFITT, *Somerset and Taunton Institution*; August 2.

EXCHANGE.

Erebia Blandina.—Having several of this insect in duplicate, I should be happy to exchange them for any of the following, according to 'Manual' numbers:—1, 3, 4, 23, 24, 29, 33, 35, 42—44, 48, 54, 59.—J. K. FAWCETT, *House of Correction, Kendal*; August 7.

Zenizera Æsculi.—Having a quantity of the eggs of this species, laid by specimens captured by Mr. R. B. Smith, of Blackheath (in July, from the 7th to the 12th, on a partly-decayed ash), I shall be happy to exchange them for fine specimens of any of the following:—

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| P. Machaon, | T. Rubi, |
| H. Semele, | P. Arion, |
| G. Blandina, | P. Corydon, |
| S. Carpinii, | S. Paniscus, |
| P. Statices, | T. Tipuliforme, |
| A. Cratægi. | |

—WILLIAM A. LEWIS, *Springhill House, Southampton*; August 2.

Exchange.—Having spare specimens, in fine condition, of *Epione Advenaria* (male and female) and *Myelois Cribrum*, I shall be glad to exchange for sets of six of *E. Vespertaria* and *E. Apiciaria*.—G. FISHER, 21, *New Church Street, Edgware Road, London*.

Haggerstone Entomological Society.—Among the exhibitions on the 4th inst. were the following:—*N. Bicolora* (taken in Ireland during the present season) and *S. Palealis*, exhibited by Mr. Harding. *S. Convolvuli*, exhibited by Mr. Bryant. *A. Ophiogramma* (taken on the Tottenham Marsh), by Mr. Thomas Hockett.

E. Venustula (taken at Loughton), by Mr. Baker. *N. Cupriacellus* and *Minimellus* and *S. Albipalpella* (all taken at Loughton, *Cupriacellus* being abundant), by Mr. Killingback. *N. Cupriacellus*, *A. Andereggiella* and *N. Plagicolella*, by Mr. Miller. Larvæ of *D. Galii* (from Victoria Park, six having been taken), by Mr. Pisto.—H. W. KILLINGBACK, *Hon. Secretary*.

A CALENDAR OF LEPIDOPTERA.

AUGUST.

Larvæ.—35, 73—76, 78—81, 85—87, 89, 113, 115, 116, 123, 126, 127, 130, 135, 139, 140, 158, 169, 172, 189, 202, 210, 215—217, 220, 223, 224, 228, 234, 257, 268, 279, 282, 322, 392, 393, 395—397, 402, 407, 411, 414, 417—419, 426, 441, 474, 480, 484, 487, 488, 495, 496.

Imagos.—4, 9, 11, 14, 26—29, 42, 49, 50, 55, 56, 58, 60, 61, 63, 65, 66, 76, 82, 117, 118, 137, 146, 147, 151, 154—156, 178, 190, 194, 208, 230, 245, 249—253, 255, 256, 266, 269, 271, 274—276, 306, 311, 318, 320, 321, 323, 346, 347, 350, 351, 353, 387, 388, 391—394, 402, 403, 408, 411, 417, 421, 438, 456, 458, 475, 478, 483, 485, 489, 490.

Among this list will be found some of our rarest species, either in larvæ or imago, as *P. Daplidice*, *V. Antiopa*, *A. Lathonia*, *C. Chryseis*, *D. Livornica*, *A. Australis*, *P. Occulta*, *H. Satura* (two of which have been taken in this neighbourhood—one was captured by myself), *P. Orichalcea*, *S. Anomala*, *C. Fraxini*.—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough*; August 1.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S ANNUAL for 1855, Second Edition, price 2s. 6d., contains the following information on COLLECTING AND PRESERVING LEPIDOPTERA by H. T. STAINTON:—

1. How to collect Lepidoptera.
2. How to rear Lepidoptera from the pupa or larva state.
3. How to kill Lepidoptera.
4. How to pin Lepidoptera.
5. How to set Lepidoptera.
6. How to arrange Lepidoptera in the Collection.

It also contains NOTES on the COL-

LECTING and PRESERVING COLEOPTERA, by T. VERNON WOLLASTON:—

1. Suggestions where Coleoptera should be looked for.
2. The apparatus necessary for the collector of Coleoptera.
3. The mode of preparing the specimens when caught.

From it containing this information, this little volume is of great value to all beginners, and some may be incited to greater ardour in the pursuit by reading the "Address to Young Entomologists at Eton, Harrow, Winchester, Rugby, and at all other Schools."

London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row.

Coleoptera for Sale.

J. A. BREWER, of Holmesdale House, Reigate, Surrey, begs to announce that he has just returned from NORTH WALES, where he was fortunate in taking specimens of *Blemus areolatus* and *Harpalus melancholicus*, besides many other interesting species, which he will be happy to supply at the prices affixed to them:—

| | s. | d. |
|--|----|--------|
| <i>Blemus areolatus</i> | 2 | 6 each |
| <i>Harpalus melancholicus</i> | 2 | 0 ... |
| <i>Pterostichus Æthiops</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Nebria Gyllenhalii</i> | 0 | 3 ... |
| <i>Melosoma ænea</i> | 0 | 6 ... |
| <i>Bledius Taurus</i> (from Norfolk) | 0 | 6 ... |

J. A. B. has also still on hand specimens of most of the Species advertised in the 'Intelligencer' of May 14, 1859, and June 4, 1859. He will be happy to send a priced list of the Species he has on hand to any who may desire it.

The specimens are all well-ordered and in good condition.

Now ready, price 8d.,

A LIST OF LEPIDOPTERA. Part II. Printed on one side only for labelling Cabinets. Arranged as in the 'Mammal of British Butterflies and Moths.' By H. T. STAINTON.

London: John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster Row.

Printed and published by EDWARD NEWMAN, Printer, of No. 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Without, London, in the County of Middlesex.—Saturday, August 13, 1859.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 151.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

THANKS.

Six weeks have scarcely elapsed since our last appeal to our correspondents on the subject of the genus *Depressaria*, and already *three* species *never bred before by us* grace our setting-boards.

Our most especial thanks are due to those who have thus promptly responded to our call.

Firstly, we have to thank Herr Schmid, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, for a *new species* in the genus, the larva of which feeds on yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*); the perfect insect is intermediate between *Albipunctella* and *Pulcherrimella*, and belongs to a group which we have hitherto been accustomed to consider exclusively *Umbellifera*-eating insects; for this novelty the name of *Depressaria Achillea* has been proposed.

Secondly, we have to thank Herr Hofmann, of Ratisbon, for the larva of *D. Pallorella*: this larva, like its nearly *D. Litorella*, feeds on the leaves of *Centaurea*, but its dark green colour readily separates it from the black larva of *Litorella*; moreover, that is fed up at the end of May, this at the end of July. Rumours had indeed

reached us that *Pallorella* was a *Centaurea*-feeder, but we fancied there was some confusion with *Litorella*, and were not disposed too hastily to give credence to the assertion.

Thirdly, we have to thank Herr Lederer, of Vienna, for transmitting to us living larvæ and pupæ of the Alpine species *Depressaria Heydenii*. This insect was first noticed by Senator von Heyden, who, turning over a stone on the Faulhorn, in August, 1847, met with a pupa spun up thereto, which produced a specimen of a new *Depressaria*; this was named by Zeller after its discoverer, and the unique specimen was fully described in the ninth volume of the 'Linnæa Entomologica.' In the summer of 1858 Professor Zeller visited Vienna, and made an excursion to the Styrian Alps; there he found a *Depressaria* larva in abundance on a white Umbellifer, and collected a considerable number, but the plant went mouldy whilst he was travelling, so that all the larvæ perished but two, which produced *D. Heydenii*. One of these was forwarded for verification to Senator von Heyden, and when at Frankfort last May we had an opportunity of comparing this Styrian specimen with the original Swiss individual, and agreed with the learned entomologist

of Frankfort that the two specimens were clearly the same species.

In the summer of the present year Professor Zeller wrote to Herr Lederer, of Vienna, urging him to seek again for the larva of this Alpine insect, and to forward specimens of living larvæ, if possible, to England, in order that they might be figured and described for a future volume of the 'Natural History of the Tineina.' Of several larvæ kindly despatched by Herr Lederer one reached us alive, though weakly for want of food; we offered it *Torilis* and *Pimpinella*, which it ate readily, though its proper food was *Heracleum Austriacum*; it soon recovered its liveliness and was then figured, some days after which, still thriving on English Umbellifers, it entered the pupa state. From the pupæ forwarded by Herr Lederer we have bred several specimens of this Alpine *Depressaria*.

This insect is interesting on several accounts; first, from being of a peculiar Alpine form; secondly, from having in the larva state survived so prolonged a journey; and thirdly, as being the first living larva we have received from a Vienna entomologist.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

RETAIL of James Gardner, 52, High Holborn; H. J. Harding, 1, York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch;

A. W. Hockett, 3, East Road, City Road; W. Weatherley, High Street, Peckham.

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
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At Worcester, of G. Morgan, Bookseller and News Agent, Little Angel St.

At York, of Robert Sunter, 23, Stonegate.

 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. H.—The *Icarius* of English authors is only a variety of the female *Alexis*; to distinguish it would puzzle a *Dada-lus*.

F. O. R.—The slug-like formation is the pupa of a fly of the genus *Syrphus*; the larvæ of these flies are highly useful

to the gardener, as they are very destructive to the Aphides.

S. S.—We hope to introduce your observations on wasps' nests next week.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Picris Daphidice.—My brother, Mr. Henry Fyles, has sent me a fine specimen of this insect, which he caught at Ten-terden, on the 31st of last month. His account of its capture is as follows:—"It was in a wheat-field. Its flight resembled that of the Wood White. It flew a little way at a time, and then dropped, as if its wings were not strong enough to stand against a little wind. I saw it settle on the standing corn; I had no net with me, so I waited till it shut its wings, and then caught it with my thumb and finger very easily."—THOMAS FYLES, *Scotter, Kirton-in-Lindsey*; August 9.

Colias Edusa.—This is as common here now as it was last year. This morning, in the course of half an hour, I caught eight males and two females. My brother found four males and one female; he also took one pale variety, in very good condition, one of which I caught last year at this place.—EDWARD D. BUTLER, 13, *East Street, Herne Bay*; August 12.

Colias Edusa.—On the 13th of August I had the pleasure of capturing thirteen specimens of this fine insect in a waste place covered with clover; they appeared to have just emerged from the pupæ.—W. A. GODWIN, 1, *Anglesea Villas, New Road, Hammersmith*.

Acherontia Atropos near *Exeter*.—During the past few days I have taken five full-fed larvæ of this insect.—JOSEPH POTTER, jun., *Countess Weir, near Exeter*; August 9.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A fine female specimen of this moth was brought me this

morning, having been caught at rest on a hedge by the road-side.—E. BOSCHER, 3, *Prospect Villas, Twickenham*; Aug. 15.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A fine specimen of this insect was brought me alive on the 12th inst.; it flew on board a vessel in the middle of the Bristol Channel, and was captured by one of the sailors.—D. WILLIAMS, *Swansea*; August 15.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A fine specimen of this insect was captured here this evening; it was hovering over a bed of Petunias, when a lady succeeded in taking it.—T. B. W. SHEPPARD, *Selwood Cottage, Frome*; August 12.

Sphinx Convolvuli and *Deilephila Galii*.—We had the good fortune to take a pair of *Sphinx Convolvuli*, in good condition, on the 12th inst., over Petunias; and, on the 11th inst., one specimen of *Deilephila Galii*, likewise over Petunias.—F. TAYLOR and J. COURTAULD, *Hove House, Brighton*; August 14.

Deilephila Galii.—I have just returned from Dover, near which place I have had the pleasure of taking about thirty-six larvæ of this species, on the Ladies' Bed-straw. As all my spare specimens are promised to private friends, it may be as well to mention that I have no duplicates to dispose of.—G. F. ROGERS, *Tottenham High Cross*; August 11.

Gastropacha Ilıcifolia.—On looking for larvæ on the Moors, with Mr. Baker, of Heeley, we found some larvæ very like *Potatoria*. On returning home we called on Mr. W. Green, who was the original discoverer of *Ilıcifolia*, and who informed us of our good fortune; he also, the day before, received some larvæ from off the Moors, amongst which he was very glad also to find *Ilıcifolia*.—W. H. SMITH, *Ecclesall New Road, Sheffield*; Aug. 15.

Acronycta Alni.—On the 9th inst., as my daughter, a child about six years of age, was walking on the New Walk, she espied a larva crawling on the ground, and at once said it was like one I had prized very much last year; she brought

it home to me, and to my great gratification it proved to be a fine larva of *A. Alni*, and has since gone to earth.—W. PREST, 7, *Castlegate, York*; Aug. 11.

Myelois Pinguis.—I have taken, within the last month, forty-two specimens of this insect on the trunks of ash trees; several specimens had just emerged from the chrysalis. On examining the bark of the trees I found several empty chrysalis-skins.—C. HELSTRIP, 4, *Apollo Street, Heslington Road, York*; August 11.

A New British Noctua.—Intelligence has just reached me of the capture of a *Leucania* new to this country: I hope to announce the name and give further particulars next week.—H. T. STANTON; August 15.

Plusia Festuæ.—Since the 30th of July I have collected ninety cocoons of this species. These are more than I want for myself, so I shall have some to spare for less fortunate entomologists.—J. DANIELS, *Lately Common, near Leigh, Lancashire*.

Captures in the Isle of Wight, including a new British Noctua.—Having spent a fortnight in collecting through the Isle of Wight, I subjoin a list of the more important captures:—

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| T. Ichneumoniforme S. Sticticalis* | |
| D. Galii | S. Palealis |
| L. Mesomella | B. Flavalis |
| C. Duplaris | M. Asinalis |
| C. Alsines | A. Citraria |
| N. Despecta | G. Pullaria |
| M. Abjecta | E. Poraria |
| N. Flammata | E. Innotaria |
| A. Lucerneæ | S. Perterana |
| A. Lunigera* | E. Vectisana |
| A. Saucia | N. Scabiosella* |
| A. Aquilina | N. Cupriacella |
| E. Ochroleuca | D. Bipunctosa |
| H. Serena | G. Anroguttella |
| C. Absinthii | C. Woëkeella |
| A. Luctuosa | A. Bennetii |
| C. Angustalis * | P. Bipunctidaetylus |
| P. Fimbrialis | P. Spilodaetylus. |
| S. Punctalis | |

Those marked with an asterisk I have in duplicate. With regard to the foregoing list I must mention that *D. Galii*, *N. Despecta* and *C. Absinthii* were not taken by myself, and that Mr. Rogers, of Freshwater, who has zealously cultivated the study of Natural History for the last few years, and is most liberal with regard to both information and specimens, was the fortunate captor of *Noctua flammata*, a *Noctua* new to England, but which has a wide range over Europe and India: this insect resembles in some degree *N. triangulum*, but is immediately distinguished by a black collar, even more distinct than that of *T. pastinum*; it has a black basal streak on the fore wings. I saw the specimen before it was killed, and made a drawing, by which, thanks to the kindness of Mr. Bond, I was enabled to recognise the insect at the British Museum.—W. D. CROUCH, *Uphill House, Weston-super-Mare*; August 11.

COLEOPTERA.

Captures of Coleoptera.—Since my last note I have had a few hours on Skiddaw, being obliged to descend on account of the mist, which completely soaked us, and curtailed our labours by several hours' hunting. I was expecting to drop on *Leistus montanus*. By the way, will the captors of this species either publicly or privately tell me in what month, or in what situation, and under what circumstances they have taken this species, as I intend to spend more time another season to obtain this species. I met with the following:—

Carabus glabratus (1),
Patrobus septentrionis (1),
Pterostichus Æthiops (2),
 „ *Orinomus* (3),
Notiophilus aquaticus (1),
Calathus?

and a few others I am not conversant with. I paid a visit to Barron Wood, and took *Strangalia elongata* in plenty on the meadow-sweet, and a pair of *S-macu-*

lata and 4-fasciata, also *Grammoptera ruficornis* and *Malachius bipustulatus* on the flowers. — J. B. HODGKINSON, 11, Bispham Street, Preston.

The Genus Trechus.—Two weeks ago, when at Preston, I arranged with my friend, J. B. Hodgkinson, that on my return from the North we should go *Trechus*-hunting. Hitherto Preston had been famed for the richness of the "rejectamenta" cast ashore on the river Ribble where the tide met the floods: this year there have not been any floods, consequently Preston lost its reputation as a productive locality. We, being unbelievers in chance captures, and having little faith in the assertion that "*Discus* & Co." come from the mountains, determined to trace the genus to its source up the river; and three days ago we put our determination into practice. Two days (I was going to say, hard work) confirmed our suspicions: having walked two or three miles up the river we crossed the fields to its banks. Diggers out, coats off, trowsers turned up, shirt-sleeves ditto, bottles in order; agreed to divide all we got, so that when one had got good ground the other could go "prospecting" for our mutual advantage, and into the sandy loam of a chosen point we went as if life and death depended upon who drew the first prize. "*Trechus secalis*!—*Trechus minutus*!—*Trechus secalis* again!" when I almost fell into the river through pleasurable excitement, as Mr. Hodgkinson's merry voice clearly rung out, "*Trechus lapidosus*!" Presently we found *Trechus discus* at home! and within an hour we had secured a family party of this species. Having exhausted this part of the bank we went in search of another suitable place; eschewing clay, we chose only sandy loam, where the insects could burrow at will, and here, amongst no end of *Bembids* and *Clivinas*, which we were not looking for just then, we found our pet family of the day, *Trechus*; now working for an

hour without return, now falling on a *Rubens* or a *Discus*. Twice, Mr. H. called me to examine an unexpected species, *Stenolophus elegans*, taken whilst trying a stiff part of the bank; but even this species, new to Lancashire, did not lead us off our *Trechus* hunt, thinking everything must give way to our set purpose. Night found us still upon the trail of this genus, and our captures amply repaid us for our perseverance. Here then, within sound of the church bells of Preston, *Discus* & Co. have resided in the patches of sandy loam on the river-banks for ages, whilst we have been journeying on to the marsh at every flood in hopes one may have been brought down and deposited on the shore, where we might find it, simply because some wiseacre had told us it had come from the limestone mountains.—C. S. GREGGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool*; June 28.

OBSERVATIONS.

Ants'-nest Beetles.—When I imported my first bag of ants'-nest *débris* from Perthshire, I found the larvæ of a Staphyline in plenty in it, and determined to try and breed it, which I have accomplished; it produced *Homolota flavipes*. Whilst waiting for this species to perfect itself other species of larvæ kept appearing freely, and I have now bred the second brood of *Homalota anceps*, *Oxy-poda formicicola*, *Oxy-poda hæmorrhœa* and *Ptilium latum*; this last new to Britain, and being such a small species of course I did not observe its larvæ. It has been said it was wrong to disturb the nests of ants, but it seems to me that those who wish to observe the early states of parasitic Coleoptera have no other resource; and, again, active-minded men cannot be expected to go through the slow process of waiting for a beetle to

come out to be caught, even if they lived upon an ants' nest. In the *débris* I found three larvæ, about three-quarters of an inch long, evidently allied to the genus *Dermestes*, but which have not yet perfected themselves. I name it that others may look out for a fine new species in this genus. — C. S. GREGSON, *Fletcher Grove, Stanley, near Liverpool*.

EXCHANGE.

Larvæ for figuring wanted. — Being very much in want of *Melanippe Hastata* and *Tristata*, in order to the completion of a set of figures of the larvæ of the whole of that genus, I shall be extremely obliged to any one who will send me both or either species. I will pay all postage expenses, and most readily make any return I can in the way of larvæ or perfect insects, and I think it is in my power to tempt even "Barnes" himself, if he still survives. If any dealer has these larvæ to part with I shall be glad to hear from him. — REV. J. HELLINS, *Chaplain's House, County Prison, Exeter*.

Larentia Olivaria. — Having taken this insect in some numbers, I shall be glad to exchange it for good specimens of any of the following: — 44, 63, 76, 88, 95, 101, 116, 120, 124, 136, 138, 157, 159, 167, 178, 186, 191, 193, 204, 223, 226, 235, 237, 263, 271, 288, 296, 305, 318, 320, 322, 323, 340, 342, 381, 396, 397, 399, 401, 407, 428, 443, 450, 468, 470, 477, 478; also

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| E. Dolobraria, | E. Tiliaria, |
| I. Vernaria, | F. Limbaria, |
| N. Zonaria, | M. Hastata, |
| A. Ulnata, | &c. |

— W. G. RAWLINSON, *Taunton*; Aug. 5.

Nonagria Typhæ. — I have bred specimens of this insect, which I shall be happy to send any one who will forward a corked box and return postage. — R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Eye*; August 15.

Exchange. — I have duplicates of *Hipparchia Semele*, which I shall be happy to exchange for *Lasiommata Aegeria*, *Argynnis Paphia* or *Selene*, or *Nemeobius Lucina*. Insects in good condition only are wanted. — J. C. HUDSON, *Crescent, Salford*.

Exchange. — I have the following to offer: —

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| H. Davus, | A. Galathea, |
| P. Ægon, | T. Tages, |
| A. Cratægi, | S. Alveolus, |
| A. Paphia, | L. Quercus, |
| Adippe, | T. Rubi (males), |
| Aglaia, | A. Ulnata, |
| M. Artemis, | F. Piniaria, |
| H. Semele, | |

and others that it would take too much space to mention. I shall be glad of almost any of the Sphingina, but more especially the Clear-wings. — F. C. BRYANT, 2, *Victoria Villas, Weston-super-Mare*; August 9.

Exchange. — I have some specimens of the following: —

Arge Galathea,
Hipparchia Semele,
Melitæa Artemis,
Acontia Luctuosa,
Abraxas Ulnata,

which I should be glad to exchange for local species, more particularly the Hawk Moths, Clear-wings and Rhopalocera. As my stock of duplicates is only limited applicants had better write before sending boxes, and if they do not receive an answer within ten days they will know that their offers are not accepted. — T. E. RICHARDSON, 2, *Victoria Villas, Weston-super-Mare*; August 10.

Exchange. — I have duplicates of *E. Cussiope*, *C. Davus*, *H. Velleda* and *P. Octomaculalis*, which I shall be glad to exchange for *P. Cratægi*, *C. Dispar*, *T. Betule*, *T. W-album*, *L. Trifolii* or any local species. I have also the following duplicates: — 3, 12, 15, 26, 34, 36, 39, 40, 41, 61, 67, 73, 78, 85, 86, 87, 103, 135, 145, 167, 173, 185, 219, 258, 283,

297, 304, 312, 322, 336, 351, 370, 376, 384, 397, 402, 410, 413, 416, 418, 426, 451, 479, 488, 495, 496, *H. Pyraliaria*, *P. Cæsiaria*, *A. Citraria* and *F. Piniaria*. I annex a list of my desiderata:—127, 144, 150, 151, 162, 221, 225, 238, 244 to 250, 269, 273, 300 to 303, 339 to 341, 349, 356, 359, 365, 368, 377, 383, 398, 421, 422, 433, 434, 437, 443, 449, 454 to 459, 465, 466, 477, 482. — F. BUCKTON, 6, Beech Grove Terrace, Leeds; August 13.

MARVELLOUS CAPTURES.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—Lately the capture of *Notodonta tritophus* was recorded in the 'Intelligencer,' but it is not stated how the species was identified, as in the case of so great a rarity it should have been, and consequently I find no one believes that the insect is really the species designated. Still later we are treated to the announcement of the capture of *Pieris Daplidice* "by a juvenile," and we are left in doubt whether there is not some such error as occurred on a former occasion, when an enthusiastic tyro told us he had caught *Argynnis Lathonia*, which proved to be only a common species. And we all remember the episode of *Melitæa Dia*, which has not to this day obtained credence.

May I therefore suggest, that, in the event of the capture of any great rarities or novelties, the specimens should be exhibited at a meeting of the Entomological Society, or that at least they should be shown to some one who is competent to decide what the species is; otherwise the 'Intelligencer' will obtain an unenviable notoriety as the means of disseminating reports that are not true, or if true are

not corroborated, and consequently not believed.

J. W. DOUGLAS.

Lee; August 13.

THE POST OFFICE.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—The cruel mortification of the incipient, as well as other entomologists, when they find their best hopes of a valuable addition to their cabinets frustrated by the folly of others, is my best apology for troubling you with these observations. These remarks are forced on me in consequence of the utter carelessness and unfeeling recklessness—I should more properly say the fiendish wantonness—of the Post-Office officials.

The annual sacrifice of species to that shrine of Moloch, the Post Office, must be fearful to contemplate, and I am afraid that unless some means are adopted to check the evil, we shall be debarred from sending the species that occur in different counties one to another, and the interchange of specimens must cease. Is there no redress for this destruction? I am asked. I refer the question to your better judgment, and ask, "Is there no redress?"

I have, during the past three months, forwarded a great number of boxes to different parts of the country, and fully one-fourth of that number arrived crushed. I have now by me nine boxes that I have received crushed, three of which deserve their fate, being only card-board; the others are what any one would call pretty fair, and, with ordinary care, would have come safe. I forwarded a box under four ounces to Ulverstone last week, made in the strongest manner possible, well-padded, bound over with black, and labelled; it would bear any amount of pressure, and any one would have thought it impossible to break it; but lo! it

arrived smashed to pieces, and all its contents spoiled. I also lately received a box, under three ounces, containing specimens of *Erebia Cassiope* and *Polyommatus Arion*; the box was so strong that it had only started in one corner, but the contents were done for: the pins had stood nobly in the cork, but there they were—the thorax and perhaps one wing, perhaps two, standing to the pin, the other parts scattered about.

"It is high time," says one of my correspondents, "for the entomologists of England to endeavour to obtain compensation from the Post Office for the gross neglect and carelessness of its officials. I would that there was any chance of doing so, but I am afraid it would be of no avail. If, by publicity in the 'Intelligencer,' it could by some means reach the right quarter, I should feel happy. I hope you will excuse this long epistle, but I feel warmly on the subject, and would willingly lend a hand to anything that could be done.

Yours, &c.,

J. S. DELL.

Moriee Town, Devonport;

August 8.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 152.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

EXPERIENCE.

AN able correspondent, in our last number, alluding to the captures of rarities, seems anxious to prevent young people making mistakes. We fear that while the world standeth young people will make blunders, and each will only learn to avoid doing so by experiencing the annoyance of discovering what a grievous mistake he has made.

We are perfectly aware that it may be urged, that if youngsters are apt to make mistakes, why insert unauthenticated communications from juveniles? But how are we to ascertain who are the juveniles? We often conclude, from the hand-writing and style of letter, that such and such correspondents are juveniles, and discover afterwards that they are well advanced in life, with juveniles of their own. On the other hand, instances are continually occurring of the hand-writing of incipients being mistaken for those of persons verging to old age, and our replies thereto are tinged with a respectful tone which must be excessively amusing to the overgrown school-boys.

We limit the age of our correspondents; they must be *fourteen*, but

yet we may receive letters written by children much younger, without knowing it.

Many of our best entomologists never communicate any notices of their captures for fear that unwittingly they should make a mistake; this is the caution peculiar to adults. The entomologist of fourteen never thinks at all of the probability of making a mistake; but the entomologist of forty (who is far less likely to make one) does think on the subject, and shrinks from the contingency. He has attained this wisdom *through experience*; and the rising generation of entomologists can only obtain an equal degree of prudence by the teachings of the same stern master.

Say what you like, and argue as you will, you cannot put grey heads on young shoulders, nor prevent a juvenile from jumping to a conclusion.

It is as necessary for a juvenile to go through a course of experience, by way of training and educating him, as it is needful for a child to learn its letters; both processes are tedious and painful, but unfortunately cannot be avoided.

The late Rev. Mr. Robertson has remarked that "Fire burns the child, to

teach it one of the truths of this universe—the property of fire to burn. The first time the child cuts its hand with a sharp knife it has gained a lesson which it will never forget. Now, in the case of pain, this experience is seldom, if ever, in vain. There is little chance of a child forgetting that fire will burn, and that sharp steel will cut.” And we fear the necessity of experience renders other painful sensations imperative besides burns and cuts.

There is, however, one view of the subject to which we can very properly call attention; when an important capture or curious fact has been announced in our columns, if the in-cipient afterwards discovers the mistake he is bound by all rules of honesty and fair dealing to make free and ample confession. As long as he, knowing that he has made a mistake, conceals it, he is acting a lie, and we do not envy him, in such case, the reproaches of his own conscience.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

Mr. STAINTON will be “at home” on Wednesday next, the 31st inst., at 6 P.M., as usual; but will *not* be at home on the following Wednesday. Mr. STAINTON will be at Aberdeen during the Meeting of the British Association.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. H., REGENSBURG.—VII. received; thanks. The grey-green larva is certainly *Teniatella*; the markings will be more distinct when older. The yellow larva is quite new to me, but must, I think, be an *Elachista*. I think you are wrong in the name of the grass mined by *Teniatella*; it seems to me *Brachypodium sylvaticum*; of that mined by the yellow larva I cannot express an opinion, as I am unacquainted with *Hierochloa australis*.

C. S. G.—*Tinca Dubiella* next week.

TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.—Mr. STAINTON will be from home from the 2nd to the 24th of September, so that it would be desirable that no larvæ should arrive for him during that period.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Colias Edusa.—This insect was not so common here last year, but this year any one who had time might catch hundreds. On Saturday afternoon I captured eleven in about twenty minutes; one of them was nearly white, but the other markings were the same excepting the black edge of the fore wing, which was spotted with white. I had no time to spare just then, so I was obliged to leave the field contented. It was a field covered with

lucerne in bloom. I dare say I shall catch a great many more, and shall be happy to supply any one in want of them shortly.—W. SLATER, *New Bexley, Kent, S.E.*; August 23.

Pieris Duplidice.—Another specimen of this insect has been taken near the spot where I took my first one on the 18th ult. — H. J. HARDING, "*Noah's Ark*," *Deal, Kent*; August 12.

Deilephila Galii.—I have taken six fine full-fed larvæ of this species, and am on the look out for more.—IBID.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A fine specimeu of this insect was brought me alive the other evening, having been taken just previously close by. — R. W. WRIGHT, 4, *Gloucester Terrace, Victoria Park Road, Hackney, N.E.*; August 22.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have had a female specimen of this insect, and also a full-fed larva of *Acherontia Atropos*, brought to me from Lancaster. The *S. Convolvuli* was taken at rest in a green-house. I am now rearing a second brood this year of *C. Elpenor*.—WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, *Tolson Street, Sunny Bank, Leeds*; August 22.

Clountha Solidaginis and *Acentropus Niveus* at York.—On Thursday, the 11th inst., I took a fine specimen of *C. Solidaginis* at sugar. *A. Niveus* fell rather curiously into my hands: I was setting, by gaslight, some of my captures, when a little delicate insect came flouncing on its back on the table amongst my entomological paraphernalia, having singed itself in the gas flame. On examination I found it had sustained but little injury, and as it appeared to be a Lepidoptera quite new to me I of course pinned and set it at once, and find it to be *A. Niveus*. These both constitute, I believe, additions to our local Fauna.—J. BIRKS, *York*; August 22.

Cerura Bicuspis at York.—Mr. Allis and myself went, on the 10th inst., in search of *Alni* and *Bicuspis*, when Mr. A. succeeded in finding one pupa of the

latter. A diligent search produced no *Alni*. In the evening of the same day I took a full-fed larva of *Bifida* crawling on the trunk of a poplar.—IBID.

A new British Noctua; *Leucania putrescens*.—Early in July I took, flying over bramble blossoms, three Noctuæ which nobody here could make out. I sent one of them to Mr. Henry Doubleday, who writes that "it is certainly new to Britain, and extremely near to *Leucania punctosa* and *L. putrescens*." — R. M. STEWART, 3, *Park Place, Torquay*; August 13.

Leucania Putrescens.—A specimeu of this insect has been forwarded to me, to be named, by Dr. Battersby of Torquay; it was taken at dusk, in the middle of July, hovering over the blossom of the blackberry, on the cliffs. I presume this is the insect taken by Mr. Stewart, and this is undoubtedly *Putrescens*. *L. Punctosa* is a redder insect, with a less distinctly-marked black streak from the base of the wing. *L. Putrescens* is a native of the South and West of France. Herrich-Schäffer and Guenée both place it next to *Obsoleta*.—H. T. STAINTON; Aug. 20.

Spilodes Sticticalis.—It may be interesting to some of the Lancashire entomologists to know that this insect has been taken so near home. I had the pleasure of capturing a specimen in the Botanical Garden, Moss Side, Ashton-under-Lyne. — M. WARD, *St. Mary's Street, Dukinfield*; August 15.

Pterophorus Loewii.—It may interest some of your readers to know that this species is now out on the sand-hills; it copulates about 7 P.M., and consequently on the wing at that time; it frequents damp swampy patches.—C. S. GREGSON, *Stanley, Lancashire*; August 18.

Captures near Uppingham.—During the past year we have taken the following species:—

Arge Galathea (abundant),

Apatura Iris (two females and one male),

Grapta C-album (abundant),
 Thecla Pruni (two),
 „ Quereus (abundant),
 „ Rubi (a few),
 Polyommatus Corydon (several),
 „ Agestis (a few),
 Thymele Alveolus (abundant),
 Thanaos Tages (several),
 Steropus Paniscus (do.),
 Pamphila Linea (abundant),
 „ Sylvanus (do),
 Procris Staticee (a few),
 Anthrooera Trifolii,
 „ Filipendulæ (abundant),
 Smerinthus Ocellatus (two),
 „ Populi (four),
 „ Tiliæ (five),
 Acherontia Atropos (larva),
 Sphinx Convolvuli,
 „ Ligustri (abundant),
 Chærocampa Elpenor (two),
 Macroglossa Stellatarum (several),
 and many other common ones. We have
 also made the following captures, near
 Brington, Huntingdonshire:—
 Aporia Cratægi (a few),
 Cynthia Cardui,
 Thecla Pruni (abundant),
 „ W-album (two),
 Polyommatus Arion (several).
 —W. & T. BELL, *Uppingham, Rutland*;
August 16.

Captures at Pelton Fell.—I have taken,
 during the last few days, upwards of
 twenty larvæ of *Dianthæcia Capsincola*,
 in the seed-vessels of *Lychnis respertina*,
 and also a few, I think, of *D. Consersa*,
 on *Silene inflata*. Besides the above, I
 have, along with a host of common
 things, taken the following:—

Argynnis Selene (common),
 Thanaos Tages (do.),
 Diaphora Mendica (April 6th),
 Cilix Spinula,
 Xanthia Cerago (bred),
 Cucullia Chamomillæ?
 Heliodes Arbuti,
 Phytometra Ænea,
 Selenia Illustraria,

Abraxas Ulmata (common),
 Asthena Luteata,
 Melanippe Tristata,
 Lomaspolis Marginata,
 Adela Viridella (common).

My brother has also taken or bred the
 following Lepidoptera in Perthshire:—

Thecla Rubi,
 Lophopteryx Camelinea (abundant),
 Notodonta Dromedarius,
 „ Ziezæ,
 Demas Coryli (bred; common),
 Platypteryx Lacertinaria,
 Drepana Falcatoria,
 Lasioocampa Callunæ (larvæ),
 Lencania Impura,
 Acronycta Ligustri (bred),
 Triphæna Fimbria,
 Eupithecia Helveticaria? (from
 larvæ on juniper).

The *T. Fimbria* is a very curious variety,
 bred from a larva found on heather on
 the Grampians. — DAVID P. MORISON,
Pelton Colliery, Chester-le-Street, Dur-
ham; August 19.

Captures at Lulworth.—On Saturday,
 the 13th, and Tuesday, the 16th inst.,
 I made expeditions to Lulworth. The
 following is a list of my captures on the
 two days:—

Colias Edusa (4, on the road thither),
 Thecla Quereus (1, ditto),
 Polyommatus Agestis (6),
 „ Adonis (2),
 Thanaos Tages (1),
 Pamphila Actæon (23),
 Fidonia Ericetaria (7),
 Homophila Hybridulis (7),
 Aspilates Citraria (1).

Besides these I noticed two *A. Luctuosa*,
 but did not succeed in obtaining them.
 I observed that the slightest cloud pre-
 vented *P. Actæon* from appearing. *A.*
Semele were in abundance, and a few
 faded specimens of *A. Galathea*. During
 the last few days I have taken here about
 two dozen *C. Edusa*. I omitted from my
 last list of insects *Pyrausta Purpuralis*
 and *Porphyralis*. *Sirex Gigas* is abun-

dant in the neighbourhood.—REV. G. C. GREEN, *Parsonage, Hamworthy, Dorset*; August 22.

OBSERVATIONS.

Smerinthus Populi.—A pair of this species, bred the middle of last June, produced eggs, which hatched, and were full fed and buried about the 2nd of this month. They are now appearing in the perfect state; this accounts for eggs and young larvæ being found the end of this month. I also took about eighteen larvæ of the same insect off various poplar trees in this neighbourhood; they are also coming out, and my larvæ were all fed out of doors on the trees, enclosed in a gauze sleeve, so that they were not at all forced. I expect this insect is thoroughly double-brooded: last September I took eggs and young larvæ, which must have been produced from a female bred in August. Can any entomologist throw a light on the subject?—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; Aug. 16.

Nonagria Typhæ.—This species occurs here abundantly in the bulrush stems; the pupæ seem to prefer the old last year's stems. They are hard to breed perfect.—IBID.

Larvæ of Eupithecia.—I took seven full-fed larvæ of *E. assimilata* off black-currant bushes in our garden: they are easily beaten into an umbrella. *Eupithecia* larvæ are very abundant here this year; I have taken several hundreds off the flowers of the golden rod, hemp agrimony and ragwort: there are evidently eight or nine species. *Centaureata* I expect from the latter plant, and *Absynthiata* and *Vulgata* from the agrimony; the rest I don't know, but hope to breed something good. Of *Vulgata* I have also a brood, feeding on hawthorn; they were bred from the egg. We have taken *Pimpinellata* again in our garden.—IBID.

Sitaris humeralis.—This beetle is now just out. It should be looked for, as directed by Mr. Douglas ('Intelligencer,' No. 149, p. 151), upon walls perforated by the bee *Anthophora retusa*, where it may be observed sitting in the most listless manner, scarcely possessing energy sufficient, though by no means wanting in strength, to free itself from the cobwebs with which it is surrounded, and in whose meshes it not unfrequently becomes entangled. What effect a broiling sun upon the wall on which it sits might have I have not yet had the opportunity of observing. Possibly a little more energy might thereby be infused into the lazy creature. The females, on first emerging, look remarkably corpulent. This apparent obesity, however, vanishes in the course of a day or two, the insect having within that period laid an immense number of eggs, the sexes embracing the first opportunity which presents itself of meeting.—S. STONE; August 18.

WASPS' NESTS.

With reference to Mr. Smith's request that I would name the species of wasp which uses sound wood in the construction of its nest and that which employs decayed wood for the purpose, I beg to remark that last summer I had working communities of three different species in the unoccupied house to which allusion was made in No. 140 of the 'Intelligencer.' These had all been removed early in the season from their original situation under ground. The workers belonging to one of these communities were constantly to be seen scraping the material employed in building from decayed wood, commonly called touchwood; while those belonging to the other two colonies might as constantly be observed procuring theirs from sound wood, the preference being given to willow, whether made up into hurdles, gates, posts or rails. Other vegetable substances might have

been used, and undoubtedly were so, as the occasional occurrence of a green streak in the covering of either nest pointed to the probability of the material composing it having been gathered from some succulent plant; but, so far as I could observe, the first-mentioned substance was the principal one. Not being by any means skilled in the discrimination of species, I took specimens of the insects from each colony to Oxford, and submitted them to Mr. Westwood for examination, who, in an interview with which I was favoured, obligingly informed me, that of the two latter one was *Vespa rufa*, the other *V. holsatica*; and the former, if I understood him aright, a variety (according to Mr. Smith) of *Vespa vulgaris*. Now, of whatever species this wasp may be, it in this neighbourhood constantly builds under ground, and in that situation as constantly uses decayed wood in the construction of its nest. Since I have turned my attention to the habits of wasps I have never failed to find several of these nests annually. Not unfrequently as many as six or seven have been obtained in the course of a season; I have already procured three this summer, and know of a fourth, and in all probability several more will be discovered before the close of the season, so that it cannot be said to be of rare occurrence.

Mr. Smith's high standing and great attainments in Science of necessity give great weight to any observations he may make: it is obvious therefore that if any remarks of his should chance to originate in error, and the very best and wisest of men do err at times, none being exempt from the liability, they will be productive of greater results, because more implicit reliance will be placed upon them than if they had been made by one less eminent in the walks of Science; it becomes then of greater importance that a mistake made by him should be corrected, than one made by an ordinary individual.

Feeling assured that it is far from, indeed diametrically opposed to, Mr. Smith's intention or desire knowingly to disseminate error, I venture, without further attempt at apology, to point out one into which he appears to have fallen. In a paper by that gentleman, published in No. 165 of the 'Zoologist,' at p. 5172, we read as follows:—"It is necessary that an underground nest should be protected by a series of layers of delicate tissue; this is made by the scrapings of sound timber. The layers are spread over each other, and serve admirably to carry off any droppings of wet, and thus protect the inhabitants of the nest, who would soon perish if exposed to cold and wet, particularly the young brood, which, as well as the perfect wasps, are very susceptible of its influence.

"When, on the contrary, the wasp builds on a beam or shelf, there is no necessity to protect the brood from wet, a certain degree of protection from the changes of temperature is all that is required; there is consequently no necessity for the labour required to make a covering of waterproof tissue, which, as stated above, is fabricated of materials obtained by scraping sound timber; a different and far more beautiful covering is constructed of decayed wood, the covering having the appearance of being composed of a number of light brown shells, having darker transverse bands. These beautiful shell-like formations, when immersed in water, are quickly dissolved and absorb moisture rapidly; consequently they would not, in any way, answer as coverings to an underground nest."

Now, from what I have previously stated, it would appear that the very same material which, when manufactured into a covering for a wasp's nest, Mr. Smith justly considers extremely ornamental, but does not seem disposed to allow to be equally useful, rejecting it, in fact, as being wholly unfit for a covering to an underground nest, is constantly employed

by one species of wasp in constructing her subterranean dwelling; and that it is well adapted to the purpose, notwithstanding that Mr. Smith has expressed a contrary opinion, the fact of its being so employed, and doubtless having been so employed ever since the creation of the wasp in question, is a sufficient proof; for which is the more likely to be right,—the insect, directed by unerring instinct, or man, led on by his own erring judgment?

It is most singular that Mr. Smith should never have met with an underground nest composed of decayed wood, seeing that in this part of the country, as I have already shown, they are by no means uncommon; and equally strange is it, but it is nevertheless a fact, that all the nests from under the roofs of buildings—they have been five only in number—which have come under my observation, have been made of material obtained not from decayed but from sound wood.

The wasp which is with us the most abundant, and which we have been in the habit of considering as *V. vulgaris*, builds from scrapings of sound wood. Now place a working community of these alongside one of those which make use of decayed wood, and it at once becomes a parallel case with that of France *versus* Austria. The latter—I mean the latter kind of wasps—from their inferiority in size and strength, as compared with their opponents, being very soon put *hors de combat*. But place any two colonies of the same species in as close proximity to each other as you please, provided the parent wasps belonging to the two nests be kept from coming into collision, and there will be no fighting, but the work will go on as smoothly as possible, the workers will attach themselves indiscriminately to either nest, sometimes working at one, sometimes at the other. Having placed communities of the wasp which builds with decayed wood beside one of every other species which frequents

this neighbourhood, and seen that fighting was the immediate result in every instance, I conclude, whether erroneously or not remains to be seen, that it is a species separate and distinct from all others.—S. STONE; August 6.

EXCHANGE.

Hadena Chenopodii.—Last year I distributed a good many of this species, but was unable to supply all my applicants: I have now taken many more specimens, but have unfortunately lost or mislaid the list I made of those who wanted the species. If any of my correspondents still require it, I shall be happy to supply them, or any one else, as long as my stock lasts, on receipt of a box with return postage.—R. WRIGHT, 4, Gloucester Terrace, Victoria Park Road, Hackney, N.E.; August 22.

DEILEPHILA EUPHORBIAE.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—A fortnight ago the larvæ of *Deilephila Euphorbiae* was offered in exchange for other insects; but as the insects of Jersey are not admitted into our British lists, and as there are numbers in the country who would gladly accept the larvæ and find it in some convenient place here, I think it is advisable that the parties offering the above should publish the names of the individuals to whom they may supply it, so that, in the event of this insect turning up here *accidentally*, a clue might be obtained. I am well known for my antipathy to such proceedings, and the insertion of this is at present all I will trouble you for.

B. A.

Paralias Hall, August 20.

To Entomologists,

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 153.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.

PATIENCE.

PATIENCE is a very necessary virtue. But it is a virtue not common among the young; youth is proverbially impatient.

We frequently disappoint our younger contributors by not inserting their notices of captures as promptly as they expect. Once we received, on Friday morning, a notice, with the request that it might appear in that week's 'Intelligencer;' now, however important this notice might have been, it was clearly impossible for us to comply with the writer's request, as that week's journal was already printed, and at that time being forwarded by post through the length and breadth of the country.

Perhaps some would wish us to state the latest hour at which we will receive contributions to be forthwith available; but we do not think it prudent to supply that information; we should thereby simply ensure our receiving a batch of news *just at the last moment*.

The sooner we receive communications the more available they are; but we may safely announce that notices received on Mondays will always be in

time, and will appear in that week's paper, unless they are held back by the pressure of more important matter.

For instance, if we have matter set up in type to fill completely our eight pages, and we receive an announcement of the capture of *Deilephila Euphorbiæ* on the coast of Hampshire, or of *Pieris Daplidice* on the banks of the Avon, we should squeeze in these more important notices, to the exclusion of some other matter previously received.

Communications that reach us on Tuesday are almost always *in time*; but then, if they are not of a pressing nature, and we are already full, though we have *time*, we yet want *space*.

On Wednesday it is only notices of the utmost importance that can ever receive attention; and most frequently even those must then wait for the ensuing week. On that day we leave home at an early hour, and have an interview with our worthy printer at his office, and finally correct the press for that week's issue. We then generally find other occupation to employ us in London, and return home in the afternoon. On our arrival "at home" the first thing that greets us is a pile of letters which arrived after our departure in the morning. Now what

prospect is there of any of these appearing in print that week? As soon as we had left our printer's office he proceeded to set in order our eight pages, and then to press, for it is well known that some of our readers expect to get their 'Intelligencer' before Thursday night. Even our foreign correspondents always expect to receive the paper on the Saturday.

Those who are able to devote a few minutes to the consideration of the above will, we trust, be of opinion that we are not unreasonable in asking them to refrain from giving way to feelings of impatience. We do not wish to annoy any one, but at the same time we do not want to be annoyed by receiving querulous letters.

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WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. W. W.—The shrinkage of the body is no eyesore; let well alone.

J. W. C., CIRENCESTER.—Two specimens of *Acis* were once taken in a chalky field, early in July, at Lower Guiting. *C-album*; look for it where it occurs.

F. C. B.—Your corrections are not worth making; write more distinctly another time.

H. W. K.—The *Ornix* of the beech has not yet been bred.

R. H. T.—Your insects are common; they are the pupæ of *Gracilaria stigmata*.

C. H.—The *Coleophora* case sent appears to be that of a young *C. paripennella*; it is polyphagous on sloe, bramble, nut, rose, &c.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Pieris Daphidice.—A specimen was captured, on the 19th of August, in a stubble-field near the race-course at Brighton, and was shown to Mr. Weir.—J. W. C.

Polyommatus Arion.—I have lately received a specimen of this insect, which was taken at Chatteris, near Cambridge, in a turnip-field.—J. W. C.

Colias Edusa in London.—I had last Saturday the pleasure of seeing *Colias Edusa* flitting about our garden. I had no idea an insect so generally considered maritime would ever visit our smoky Metropolis.—W. C. TURNER, 33, Bermondsey Square, S.E.; August 23.

Colias Edusa.—This insect appears to have become rather common about here during the past week, as I have taken eight specimens, in beautiful condition, besides seeing several others (all males).—MATTHEW HILL, Little Eaton, near Derby; August 24.

Colias Edusa at Swansea.—Last week I saw several of this fine insect in a grass field. I captured six specimens, one male and five females. In this neighbourhood they seem rather common this year.—W. HIGGINSON, 2, Gloucester Place, Swansea; August 29.

Deilephila Galii.—Whilst taking *Peronca Permutana* at Wallasey sand-hills, on Tuesday afternoon last, I met with a nearly full-grown caterpillar of *D. Galii*. It seems quite healthy, and is now engaged eating the yellow Ladies' Bed-straw.—T. H. LANGCAKE, *Oxton, near Birkenhead*; August 24.

Acherontia Atropos.—This is very abundant here. I have heard of numbers having been killed through the ignorance of the potato-diggers. I have only succeeded in getting four pupæ.—S. R. NEAVE, *Fordingbridge, Hants*; August 27.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—On the 23rd inst. I had a fine specimen of this insect brought me.—IBID.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—This is abundant near Dublin this year. One specimen was captured last night hovering over a bed of carnations, and several others seen.—EDWIN BIRCHALL, *Dublin*; August 24.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—One specimen of this moth was caught, with his hat, by a poor man, at Herne Bay, on the 22nd instant, and is now in my possession.—E. D. BUTLER, 23, *Brompton Square, South Kensington*; August 24.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—On the 26th of this month I had a fine specimen of this insect brought me, which was taken at rest in a garden here.—G. H. LACY, 2, *Chester Place, Gosport*; August 29.

Aspilates Sacraria.—My brother has just captured a most beautiful specimen of this insect on the hill behind our house. I am off to search for more. I recognised the species from having seen Dr. Battersby's mutilated specimen, and my brother has confirmed the correctness of the name we have given our capture by comparing it with the description given of the insect, with which it perfectly tallies.—MURRAY A. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; Aug. 23.

Aspilates Sacraria.—I believe my brother has written to inform you of my lucky capture of a male specimen of this

species on the 23rd inst. I have hunted the place over and over again, but without success; still I hope to take another before the season is over. This specimen I took in a small fir plantation; the trees are young, not above two years old. The insect flew out of some rank grass growing between the trees: its flight was very slow, and it always settled head downwards. I had no net with me, so caught it, in the best manner I could, in a large chip-box. I intend sending it for exhibition to the Entomological Society.—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, near Barnstaple*; August 29.

Aspilates Sacraria.—A specimen of this insect, recently captured on a gas-lamp upon Clapham Common, was exhibited at the Haggerstone Entomological Society, on the 18th inst.—H. W. KILLINGBACK, *Hon. Sec.*

Captures near Ryde.—During the present month I have captured the following insects in this locality:—

Colias Edusa (13 ♀ and 30 ♂; very abundant),

„ *Hyalc*,

Hipparchia Semele,

Cynthia Cardui,

Thecla Quercus,

Polyommatus Argiolus,

„ *Adonis*,

„ *Agestis*,

Thanaos Tages.

I have also taken a female *C. Edusa*, having the ground-colour of *Hyalc*, and being fully half an inch less in expansion than the usual females.—W. J. JORDAN, *St. Helen's School, Bullen, near Ryde, Isle of Wight*; August 23.

Captures near Herne Bay.—I send you the following list of a few of the Lepidoptera I have lately captured near Herne Bay:—

Papilio Machaon, var. (1),

Gonepteryx Rhamni (abundant),

Colias Edusa (60),

„ „ var. (1),

„ *Hyalc* (8),

Aporia Cratægi (2),
Arge Galathea (abundant),
Hipparchia Hyperanthus (do.),
Cynthia Cardui (10),
Vanessa Polyehloros (17),
Argynnis Paphia (3),
 „ *Aglais* (1),
Thecla Betulæ (2),
 „ *W-album* (1),
Polyommatus Argiolus (common),
 „ *Corydon* (1),
 „ *Agestis* (abundant),
Pamphila Linea (do.),
Macroglossa Stellatarum (common),
Lasioecampa Quercus (2),
Epione Apiciaria (1),
Cleora Glabraria (2),
Strenia Clathrata (common),
Eubolia Bipunctaria (do.),
Anaitis Plagiata (do.),
Spilodes Palealis (8),

and many others, which would take up too much room to enumerate. It may be as well to mention that I only saw seven of *P. Muchaon*, and I do not know that it may be always found there. I have a few *C. Edusa* to spare, and should be glad to hear from any less fortunate collector who is in want of this insect. — E. D. BUTLER, 26, *Brompton Square, South Kensington*; August 24.

Captures near Shorncliffe.—I now send you a list of the insects I have captured and seen this year, about the neighbourhoods of Shorncliffe and Folkestone, during our station at the camp, which I gladly would have sent you before, but from want of time to make out the list; from the same cause I have collected only specimens which may never fall in my way again.

C. Edusa. One female, June 27.

A. Galathea. Abounded at the beginning and end of July.

H. Semele. A few at the end of July on Dover Cliffs.

H. Hyperanthus. Common on bramble bushes at the beginning and end of July.

G. C-album. One specimen, middle

of July, settled on a leaf, but could not capture it.

C. Cardui. One, June 29; saw a specimen next day, but failed to capture it.

A. Adippe. Plentiful on the slopes of a hill to the east of Folkestone.

P. Argiolus. One, April 13.

P. Corydon. Plentiful at middle and end of July.

P. Adonis. Very plentiful, beginning and middle of June.

P. Alexis. Do., beginning and end of June.

P. Ægon. One male, July 17, on cliffs between Folkestone and Dover.

P. Agestis. Plentiful, beginning of June and middle of July.

P. Linea. Plentiful, middle and end of July.

P. Sylvanus. Plentiful, beginning and end of July.

T. Tages. Common, beginning and end of June.

P. Statices. Common, June 14 to 20.

P. Globulariæ. Do., do.

(Both of the last two species are common on the slope of a range of hills at the back of Shorncliffe Camp and Folkestone; the first specimens of both I captured on the 13th; they only appeared for a few days.)

A. Trifolii. One, June 10.

A. Filipendulæ. Very common, beginning of June and middle of July. I bred a curious specimen of this species from a larva, in which the two centre spots are united with the two spots at the base of the wing, forming a long blotch.

P. Chrysorrhæa. Plentiful in the larva state, on May bushes, middle of June and beginning of July.

P. Anrilina. Larvæ plentiful, do.

E. Russula. One, June 19.

L. Quercus. Larva common, end of May.

Acidalia Ornata. Very common on range of hills, beginning of June and middle of July.

P. Purpuralis. Common, July.

P. Ostrinalis. One, July 25, on hills east of Folkestone.

I also took a larva of *Cerostoma Ncmorella*, on honeysuckle, in May. Our Regiment came to this Camp on the 2nd inst. Since then, on the 23rd (when out before her Majesty), I caught a glance of two specimens of *Colias Edusa*.—B. ROGERS, 19th Regiment, Aldershott Camp; August 27.

Captures at Light.—Since the hot weather has again set in, several good things have come to light; amongst them I may enumerate *C. Gemmaria* (all females), *Macaria*, *Notata* and *Alternata*, *S. Illustraria*, *E. Erosaria*, &c. By the bye, I think there must be a second brood of *Eupithecia Centaureata*. I met with the insect in May and June last, and now, after the lapse of a month or six weeks, it (as well as *Pumilata*) is again common, and in beautiful condition. *Colias Edusa* is more plentiful than ever this year.—W. G. RAWLINSON, Taunton; August 29.

A Raid in the North-West.—During the past summer we had the pleasure of making a short tour in the Highlands of Scotland, and availed ourselves of the opportunity to make entomological observations and capture specimens. We left Glasgow, on the 23rd of May, by steamer, for Loch Goil head, which place we reached at 12.30. The distance to St. Catherine's, on Loch Fyne, is seven miles; a coach was in waiting, but we preferred walking. Having committed our knapsacks to the tender mercies of a wayside acquaintance who was about to coach it, we set off. The road for half a mile lies through a hazel-wood, where, as we hurried along, we had the pleasure of capturing a fine female *M. Hastaria*, and a specimen of *E. Poraria*. *B. Fuscalis* was plentiful on the road-side, as also a variety of common species. Having reached Inverary, and surveyed the castle and grounds, we turned our steps to

Cladich, on the banks of Loch Awe,—an expanse of water which, in our opinion, surpasses even Loch Lomond in beauty. Next evening we found ourselves at Bunawe, on the shores of Loch Etive, having passed Dalmally on our way and "the copse on Cruachan Ben." Next day was devoted to the ascent of Ben Cruachan, which proved rather laborious; but the magnificent view which we had from the summit amply repaid all toil to obtain it. The hill, however, is rather barren, entomologically speaking; it is covered with short slippery grass; "brown mountain heather" makes no part of its clothing. Lepidoptera were very scarce; indeed, we only observed a few *P. Aeneu* and *P. Caspitalis*. Coleoptera were more numerous, but in no such profusion as on Ben Lomond (see Intel. No. 138). Next day we determined, before deserting our quarters, to have a hunt in a birch and hazel copse we had seen about a mile off, and as we commenced beating we were agreeably surprised to find *M. Hastaria* in tolerable abundance. But, hilloah! what is that yellow affair fluttering among the bushes? Sweep goes the net, and we have him. On examination it proved to be nothing less than *V. Macularia*, a species which, we believe, has only once previously been taken in Scotland. We had only a short time to remain, but before leaving the spot we had captured nearly a dozen, along with the following:—*A. Euphrosyne*, *M. Artemis*, *P. Lacertula*, *M. Tristaria*, *L. Musculana*, *H. Scutulana*, &c. We now directed our steps to Oban. We chose the road over the hills. On our way we took a number of *S. Bombyliformis*, evidently newly emerged from the pupæ: their great attraction was the flowers of the *Lotus corniculatus*, over which, during bright sunshine, they delighted to hover, occasionally inserting their trunks to sip the nectar, while on the wing. Late in the afternoon we reached the residence of our kind host, over whom many an

Indian summer had passed ; it is situated about five miles from Oban, near Loch Nell. We spent the next ten days in this neighbourhood, and were tolerably successful in our captures. In an open grassy spot in a wood we took two species which, we believe, are new to Scotland, *P. Statices* and *S. Clathrata*, both rather common where they did occur ; the former, along with *A. Minos*, we noticed when in Oban in 1854. The following is a list of the less common species which were taken during our stay :—

A. Euphrosyne,
M. Artemis (swarming),
T. Rubi,
P. Alsus (common),
P. Statices,
S. Bombyliiformis,
D. Coryli (1),
N. Plantaginis,
P. Fuliginosa,
D. Falcula,
T. Batis (common at sugar),
A. Ligustri (5),
M. Furva,
R. Tenebrosa,
E. Lucipara,
A. Herbida (1),
A. Nebulosa,
H. Dentina (swarming),
C. Umbratica (hovering over blossoms of *Rhododendrons*),
A. Urticæ,
G. Libatrix,
E. Mi,
V. Macularia (not scarce),
S. Illunaria,
I. Lactearia (common),
E. Poraria,
E. Pendularia (1),
S. Clathrata,
M. Liturata (in fir woods),
L. Petraria (do.),
N. Pulveraria (do.),
F. Piniaria (do.),
E. Decoloraria,
S. Simmlaria,
M. Hastaria,

M. Tristata,
A. Derivata (1),
C. Suffumaria,
C. Silacea,
O. Chærophyllata,
E. Cingulalis (1),
E. Octomaculalis (8).

There is no doubt that the vicinity of Oban, and, in fact, many districts in the West of Scotland, if carefully searched, would prove quite as favourable localities for the study of Entomology as Rannoch, or indeed many parts of England. In our opinion this arises from the extensive birch woods with which the glens and hill-sides in the North are frequently clothed, and also from the warmth and humidity of the atmosphere, partially due to the gulf-stream. In some quarters the protection from the northerly and easterly winds, yielded by the long mountain barriers, conduces to the same result. —*PICT AND SCOT, Glasgow ; August 25.*

Captures at Kirriemuir.—The dates given are the first appearances of the insects.

C. Exoleta, March 22 ; common.
C. Multistrigaria, March 28 ; not common.
H. Lobulata, April 4 ; common.
C. Vetusta, April 6 ; not common.
H. Psitticaria, do. ; do.
T. Piniperda, do. ; do.
C. Obliquaria, May 18 ; not common.
M. Unangulata, May 26 ; common.
E. Fasciaria, May 28 ; not common.
P. Alsus, May 31 ; abundant.
D. Falcata, do. ; common.
C. Silaccaria, do. ; not common.
E. Impluviata, do. ; common.
A. Derivata, May 20 ; rare.
M. Stellatarum, June 2 ; do.
A. Luteata, June 4 ; do.
M. Tristata, do. ; common.
C. Porata, do. ; do.
P. Lacertinaria, June 6 ; do.
C. Illunaria, do. ; rare.
M. Artemis, June 7 ; abundant, but local.

- A. Selene, June 7; abundant.
 L. Callunæ, June 8; common.
 C. Duplaris, do.; rare.
 C. Punctaria, do.; common.
 E. Alchemillata, do.; do.
 E. Nanata, do.; rare.
 H. Hexapterata, do.; do.
 C. Unidentaria, do.; do.
 D. Coryli, June 9; do.
 R. Tenebrosa, do.; do.
 E. Decolorata, do.; abundant.
 L. Rubi, June 10; not common.
 M. Chærophyllata, June 11; common.
 M. Litura, do.; not common.
 E. Russula, June 13; common.
 E. Plantaginis, do.; do.
 M. Belgiaria, do.; rare.
 E. Plumbaria, do.; common.
 P. Iota, do.; do.
 E. Centaureata, June 17; rare.
 M. Fasciuncula, do.; do.

In addition to which I have captured the following near Perth:—

- P. Artaxerxes, on "high Dunsinane hill," June 27; rare.
 A. Aglaia, June 27; rare.
 C. Porcellus, June 29; common.
 F. Piniaria, June 30; do.
 E. Russula, do.; do.
 A. Porphyrea, do.; do.
 —F. B. W. WHITE, *Athole Place, Perth*;
July 6.

HYMENOPTERA.

Sirex Gigas.—On the 13th of this month I captured a fine specimen of this insect.—W. J. JORDAN, *St. Helen's School, Bullen, near Ryde, Isle of Wight*;
August 23.

OBSERVATIONS.

A new *Tinea*.—I have received from Mr. Gregson a new *Tinea*, for which he has suggested the name of *Dubiella*. It sports a case like that of *Pellionella*, but

the larva is carnivorous, and prefers dried pupa-skins to any other pabulum with which it has been tried. The male is *excessively* like *Pellionella*, but the female is more like *Biselliella*, which it quite resembles in colour, though otherwise readily distinguished by the presence of a discoidal spot and by the absence of the dark edging of the costa at the base. The most perceptible characters whereby to distinguish *Dubiella*, male, from *Pellionella* are that the wings are darker, especially the posterior pair, and the hind margin of the anterior wings is more obtuse. Liverpool appears to be the country of "clothes-moths," and we look upon the greater part of the new *Tineæ* which turn up there as imported; but as we cannot conceive the circumstances which should cause them to leave our coasts after once becoming domiciled here, we fear that if their numbers increase even to a much greater degree, the new species will still have to be added to our British lists.—H. T. STANTON;
August 23.

Larva on Juniper.—On May 31 and June 4 I got two larvæ off juniper, evidently belonging to the Noctuidæ, about an inch and a half long, thick, smooth; in colour dusky brown, marbled with black and grey. Would any one be kind enough to tell me what they are?—F. B. W. WHITE, *Athole Place, Perth*;
July 6.

EXCHANGE.

Colias Edusa.—I have been so successful during the last week in capturing very fine specimens of this insect that I should be happy to exchange with any collector residing in a district where they may not be so plentiful. Nearly all mine have been taken in a small patch of lucerne, not more than an acre and a half in extent, to which they seem to be

attracted from all the neighbourhood. I should gladly exchange for pairs of the following:—

Colias Hyale,
Apatura Iris,
Papilio Machaon,
Limenites Camilla,
Thecla Quercus,
 „ *Rubi*,
Melitæa Euphrosyne,
Polyommatus Corydon,
 „ *Arion*.

Any of the varieties of Fritillaries would also be acceptable.—JOHN FRYER, jun., *Manor House, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire*; August 25.

Phragmatobia Fuliginosa.—Having a number of larvæ of this insect (reared from ova), I shall be glad to exchange them for larvæ or pupæ of any other species. My desiderata being numerous, whatever your readers may think worth the exchange will be acceptable.—J. HASLEDINE TUTIN, *Surgeon, Ripon, Yorkshire*; August 29.

Xanthia Cerago.—I have duplicates of this species, which I shall be happy to send to any gentleman who may be in want of it, on receipt of a box and return postage.—J. S. TYRER, *Hill House, Eye*; August 23.

Nonagria Typha.—I have had many more applications for this insect than I can possibly supply this year. Those gentlemen to whose letters I am unable to reply will please to accept this notice in lieu of individual answers. I am afraid Mr. Mathews has not treated his pupæ properly, as all my specimens came out very well. I put them into moss, keeping them constantly damp.—R. TYRER, jun., *Hill House, Eye*; August 27.

Stock exhausted.—I beg to inform my numerous correspondents that my stock of *Advenaria* is entirely exhausted until next year, when I hope to be able to satisfy all future demands.—G. FISHER, 21, *New Church Street, Edgware Road*.

To Entomologists.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 154.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1859

[PRICE 1d.]

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

BEFORE we next address our readers the British Association will have commenced its labours at Aberdeen. What effect the ensuing Meeting will have on the furtherance of entomological Science on the banks of the Dee remains yet to be seen. We believe that *Polyommatus Artaxerxes* is particularly desirous that something should be urged on its behalf. Does any advocate hold a brief for it? The insect being common near Aberdeen, and the interest relating to the species having been on the increase for a number of years seem to render it desirable that the opportunity should be taken of recording the latest observations and deductions with reference to its identity with *Polyommatus Agestis*.

While alluding to this insect, it may be as well to take this opportunity of stating that at Northam Burrows, near Bideford, *P. Agestis* is abundant, though not a plant of *Helianthemum* is to be found for miles: it is scarcely necessary to observe that the *Erodium* abounds on the sand-hills. We leave our readers to draw what inference they like.

The high northern latitude of Aber-

deen leads one to hope that some entomologist will favour section D with some observations on the influence of climate on the variation of species. The Scotch Eggar, by some considered distinct from our Southern *Lasiocampa Quercus*, would form a noble subject for an interesting Memoir, and the fact of the insect ordinarily requiring two years to attain the perfect state should suggest some instructive remarks on the double-broodedness of species being a variable quality according to the influence of climate.

It has been observed by Dr. Speyer, in the 'Entomologische Zeitung' for 1850, that "the short summer of high mountains may only permit of one brood in the year; but at what altitude double-broods disappear we do not know. It is not improbable that, besides the effect of the Alps and of the higher mountains in this respect, a difference may prevail in Germany between the North and the South, and that species which in Prussia and Pomerania are only single-brooded may be double-brooded in more southern localities, or at least occasionally so."

It is a well-known fact that many insects double-brooded in the South of England are only single-brooded in Scotland.

No doubt other topics will suggest themselves to the Coleopterist and Hymenopterist as likely to be invested with peculiar interest at Aberdeen, and we trust that all orders of insects will be efficiently represented. For our own contribution to the labours of the Meeting we have prepared a few observations "On the Geographical Distribution of our British Butterflies."

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STANTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

Mr. STANTON will be at ABERDEEN during the Meeting of the British Association.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. G.—Unfortunately we cannot refer you to any work which will give a key to the English and Latin names of insects.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Pieris Daplidice.—There is something almost irritating in the tremendous luck that seems so often to reward a beginner's first labours in the field of Entomology, and it is not to be wondered at that the

older collectors, whose lucky day has long gone by and whose rare captures now are the result of downright hard work, should be a little jealous. I was a very young hand when I took my six *Lathonias*, and, not knowing what they were, gave one of them to the friend who named them for me. I was but a neophyte when I found *Cloantha Perspicillaris* in a spider's web, and for ever so long thought myself supremely fortunate in having captured an "antler moth." Now the above insects were all got without the least Science, trouble or merit on my part, and yet, I suppose, they would be considered as almost equal to the whole of my subsequent captures. And I believe that the experience of many an entomologist would show the same thing. Here is a case in point. A few Sundays ago I had the great pleasure of seeing, on my way to church, a female *Pieris Daplidice*, the first I have ever seen alive in England. Whatever my impulse may have been, I could hardly, in the face of several of my congregation, cry "hats off in chase;" the chance was missed and I never saw the fair one again. However, the next morning I wrote to some of my neighbours to put them on the look out, and a few days after one of them called and said that he was going back to school the next day and wished before starting to show me a few of his last captures. I opened the box and beheld three *Daplidices*, one male and two females, all in good order, especially the male, which appeared not long out of the chrysalis. He took the first specimen before he received my note, the others after. His elder brother, who also collects, was with him, but did not get a single one, and so had to console himself with the reflection "Won't I hunt for the larvæ, old boy, while you are grinding away at Virgil." The two females had evidently laid all their eggs.—REV. W. H. HAWKER, *Green Hook, Horndean; September 3.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—On the evening

of the 22nd inst., I captured two specimens of this insect, hovering over a Phlox. I have never met with the insect in Ireland before, although I know a few specimens have been taken, and so the capture of two (both females) seems strange. I find, by your 'Manual,' that in the year 1846 they were very abundant in England, and this year has been very similar in point of heat and drought, although 1846 was not quite so dry. It seems as if dry summers were favourable for the production of *S. Convolvuli*. I have found, however, the present summer exceedingly barren with respect to the other Lepidoptera, not more than one-tenth the number that last summer produced. — REV. J. BRISTOW, *Tinahely, County Wicklow; August 29.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—My brother took a specimen (unfortunately rather rubbed) of this insect, hovering over the blossoms of the Marvel of Peru (*Mirabilis Jalapa*); also, on the 26th inst., amongst captures of lesser importance, he took (in a clover field in this neighbourhood) one specimen of the pale variety of *Colias Edusa* and one of *C. Hyale*, both females. — JOHN C. GALTON, *Den House, Teignmouth; August 30.*

Sphinx Convolvuli and *Deilephila Galii*.—On the 22nd inst. I had brought to me a larva of *D. Galii*, taken feeding on Fuchsia in a garden close by; not being quite full fed I supplied it with the same plant, and at the expiration of a week it changed to the pupa state. On the 27th inst. *S. Convolvuli* was taken at rest in an outhouse, and brought to me. — JOHN SANDERS, *Eastover, Bridgewater; August 31.*

Sphinx Convolvuli and *Deilephila Galii*.—We have captured, since the 10th inst., seven specimens of *Sphinx Convolvuli* and one of *Deilephila Galii*, at Petunias; some of them were taken as late as midnight. — REV. JOHN FARR, *Gillingham Rectory, Beccles; Aug. 30.*

A new British Species.—I have the

pleasure of informing you of the capture of a new British species, *Acontia Albicollis*. I took it in a clover-field near this town, on the 25th of last month, flying in the sunshine, like others of its genus. Mr. Doubleday has seen it, and it is on his authority I give it the above name. It is a very pretty species, resembling only the now reputed British *Solaris*, from which it differs in having the thorax white instead of grey. Some authors have, I am told, considered it a variety of *Solaris*, but Guenée thinks it distinct. — PERCY ANDREWS, 17, *Montpelier Villas, Brighton; Sept. 5.*

Ennomos Fuscantaria. — During the past week I have taken three males at light; one was taken by Mr. C. Helstrip on gingerbread at a stall in the crowded market-place here, on Saturday, the 20th inst.; whether the gingerbread or the light was the captivator it would be difficult to say. Two others (likewise males) have been taken at light. During the last week or ten days I have made captives the following (among others):—

- L. Dictæa. At light.
- L. Testacea. Do.
- H. Micacea. Do.
- E. Fuscantaria. Do.
- P. Stratiotata. Do.
- S. Sticticalis. Do.
- H. Nictitans. On the wing.
- P. Fibrosa. Do.
- X. Cerago. Do.
- E. Apiciaria. Do.
- P. Lignata (second brood), 30. Do.
- L. Trifolii. Bred.
- G. Flavago. Do.
- N. Glareosa. Do.
- D. Capsincola. Do.
- E. Cervinata. Do.
- C. Haworthii. At sugar.

Sugar has been of little use for some weeks. I recently witnessed a larva of *S. Ocellatus* perform a curious feat, analogous to that of licking itself. I was watching a brood, and noticed something peculiar about the movements of one of

them; presently it began the process of licking, which it performed by means of a brush-like apparatus (shall I call it a tongue?) beneath the jaws, which it passed over every accessible part of its body, pushing forward its head, exactly after the manner of a cat, leaving its skin glossy with a moisture, which soon disappeared.—J. BIRKS, *York; Aug. 30.*

Cirrædia Xerampelina, &c.—I have lately taken two unflown male specimens of *Cirrædia Xerampelina*. I have also several larvæ of *Orygia Gonostigma*, *Aeronycta leporina*, and two *Notodonta* larvæ not yet identified, but certainly either *Dromedarius* or *Tritophus*. All the larvæ were from the alder.—G. GASCOYNE, *Newark; September 3.*

Nola Centonalis.—On the 15th of July last I captured two fine specimens of this insect, also one a few days previously; the former were flying amongst long grass during hot sunshine; the latter was beaten up later in the evening.—W. H. ALLCHIN, 7, *Pembridge Villas, Bayswater; August 30.*

Captures near Sydenham.—I have taken the following insects since the 11th of July, besides a number of common insects not worth recording:—

Colias Edusa. Forty-seven males and eleven females (one of which only measures one inch). The hibernated *Edusa* were rather common in June and July.

Colias Edusa, var. *Helice*. One lovely specimen.

Gonepteryx Rhamni. One male.

Vanessa Polychloros. Common.

Cynthia Cardui. Do.

Polyommatus Agestis. Two.

Pamphila Linea. Abundant.

Anthrocera Filipendulæ. Common.

Pseudoterpna Cytisaria. Do.

Acidalia Immutata. One.

„ *Emarginata*. Three.

Strenia Clathrata. Common.

Ephyra Porata. One.

Eupithecia Vulgata. One.

Eubolia Bipunctata. Abundant.

Crambus Geniculcus. Common.

„ *Perlellus*. Do.

Eupœcilia Maculosana. Do.

Lozopera Francillana? Two.

Phibalocera Quercana. One.

Cerostoma Xylostella. One.

Harpella Geoffrella. Abundant.

Pterophorus Trigonodactylus. One.

—H. RAMSAY COX, *Thorndean House, Gloucester Villas, New Cross, S.E.; September 1.*

Captures near Uppingham.—During the past year we have taken the following species:—

Hepialus Hectus. Several.

„ *Sylvinus*. Do.

Cossus Ligniperda. Larvæ.

Cerura Furcula. Bred.

„ *Vinula*. Larvæ.

Pterostoma Palpina. Six, and five pupæ from willow.

Drymonia Dodonea. Threc, and seven pupæ from oak.

Psilura Monacha. Three.

Dasychira Pudibunda.

Mitochrista Miniata. Ten.

Euthemonia Russula. Threc.

Nemeophila Plantaginis. Four.

Phragmatobia Fuliginosa. Larva.

Callimorpha Jacobææ. Common.

Lasiocampa Quercus. Do.

Thyatira Derasa. Seven.

„ *Batis*. Eight.

Acronycta Runicis. Four.

Leucania Lithargyria. Common.

„ *Comma*. Several.

„ *Pygmina*.

„ *Impura*. Common.

Xylophasia Sublustris. Threc.

„ *Scelopacina*. Five.

Cerigo Cytherca. Two.

Miana Fascinneula.

„ *Arenosa*. Several.

Grammesia Trilinea. Do.

Agrotis Puta.

„ *Corticea*. Two.

„ *Ravida*.

Triphaena Janthina. Six.

„ *Fimbria*.

Triphæna Interjecta. Four.

Noctua Brunnea. Eight.

„ Umbrosa. Six.

„ Baja. Common.

Tæniocampa Gothica. Do.

„ Munda.

„ Cruda. Common.

„ Rubricosa. Four.

Cirrædia Xerampelina.

Dicycla Oo.

Euplexia Lucipara. Common.

Aplecta Herbida. Two.

„ Nebulosa. Several.

„ Advena.

Hadena Chenopodii. Two.

„ Oleracea. Two.

Cucullia Verbasci. Several.

Erastria Fuscula. Four.

Amphipyra Pyramidea. Several.

Mania Maura. Two.

Catocala Nupta. Two.

Euclidia Mi. Common.

„ Glyphica. Do.

Also many common ones, which we have not mentioned, as it would take up too much space.—W. & J. BELL, *Uppingham, Rutland; August 27.*

Captures near Crewe.—I have taken specimens of the following this season. Of those marked thus * I have duplicates:—

Dichelia Grotiana.

*Clepsis Rusticana.

Halonota Inopiana.

Dicrorampha Tanacetii. Two; the only specimens I have seen since 1856.

Anchylopera Biarcuana.

* „ Siculana.

Pœcilochroma Signatana.

Endopisa Germanana.

*Cnephiasia Hybridana.

* „ Alternella.

* „ Pascuana.

*Euchromia Fulvipunctana.

*Argyrolepis Cnicana.

*Eupœcilia Nana.

* „ Griseana.

* „ Rupicola.

*Eupœcilia Ruficiliana.

Lozopera Straminea.

*Xanthosetia Hamana.

Tinea Nigripunctella.

„ Bistrigella.

*Lampronia Rubiella.

*Swammerdamia Griseo-capitella (br.)

*Gelechia Lentiginosella (bred).

„ Acuminatella.

„ Affinis.

* „ Luculella.

„ Ligulella.

* „ Suffusella. This species is very local, only flying about twenty minutes at sunset.

Gelechia Nigricostella.

* „ Ericinella.

*Parasia Metzneriella.

Anarsia Spartiella (bred).

„ Genistæ (do.)

Cecophora Tripuncta.

* „ Fuscescens.

* „ Pseudo-spretella.

Ornix Betulæ.

*Colcophora Fabriciella.

„ Alcyonipennella (bred).

„ Pyrrhulipennella.

* „ Discordella.

* „ Troglodytella.

„ Argentula.

„ Vitisella.

Laverna Ochraceella.

* „ Epilobiella.

*Elachista Rhynchosporella.

„ Caricis?

Opostega Salaciella.

Bucculatrix Aurimaculella.

„ Ulmella.

Trifurcula Immundella.

*Pterophorus Lithodactylus.

* „ Paludum. Plentiful in the evening among heath.—W. THOMPSON, 4, *Dutton's Buildings, Mill Street, Crewe.*

Captures at the Bridge of Allan.—

Sphinx Convolvuli. One, flying over a Phlox.

Ennomos Tiliaria. One, at light.

Epione Apiciaria. Do.

Noetua Glareosa. Common at sugar.

„ *Triangulum*. Do.

Polia Chi. Three; do.

Agrotis Agathina. One; do.

Xanthia Cerago. Six; do.

Calocaupa Vetusta. One; do.

Triphæna Fimbria. Common; do.

—JAMES WINGATE, *Dunallan Cottage, Bridge of Allan; August 29.*

COLEOPTERA.

Leistus montanus.—In answer to Mr. Hodgkinson's communication in the 'Intelligencer' (No. 151, p. 164), I beg to mention that *Leistus montanus* has been found under small heaps of stones in September, on the ridge or shoulder of Cader Idris, and that it has also been taken on Croagh Patrick, in Ireland.—F. WALKER, *Grove, Highgate; Sept. 1.*

Gravesend.—On the 12th of August Mr. Gorham and I had a day's collecting on the river-bank, by the Fort (Kentish side), and found no cause of complaint on comparing captures, except that the stones were very hard to move. It being the first time that I had seen (alive) many of the species found there, I was much pleased, especially as several were in countless profusion. *Pogonus chalceus* and *Harpalus pubescens* (both varying extremely in size and colour) literally swarming under the stones close to the water's edge, and even under sea-weed, accompanied by three or four species of *Anthicus* and divers underdone-shrimp-like animals, which skipped about diagonally in the Australian boomerang curve. The two Geodephagous species above-mentioned were invariably together, and never encroached upon the upper tier of blocks, under which numberless *Harpalus obscurus* and still more abundant *Brachinus crepitans* were always to be found, and with them *Harpalus puncticollis* (including its very small var.), *H. rubripes*, *Dromius glabratus* (in some heat-cracked places so plentiful as to look like coarse gun-

powder strewed about), *Bembidium normannum* and *pusillum*, *Ocypus ater* and *Myrmedonia canaliculata*; all common. Having taken both sexes of *B. crepitans* both in spring and autumn, at the Isle of Wight, Brighton, &c., and never having hitherto found it act up to its name, I was much delighted to find these Gravesend gunners ready to salute on the slightest provocation (possibly by reason of their proximity to fortifications); frequently overturning up a stone a dozen or more would be uncovered, a scattered file-fire being the immediate result, some small and consequently pugnacious males giving four or five shots, apparently on the revolver principle. If torpid a little digital irritation would almost always cause a volley,—a decided whitish vapour and pungent smell of "Brachiine" (if there be such a chemical body), appealing to other sensoria besides the ear to corroborate the propriety of the Bombardiers' title, hitherto considered by me as merely a brevet-rank. Among the better species were the following:—

Harpalus sabulicola

„ *depressus*

Pterostichus picimanus,

Amara convexiuscula

Bembidium rufescens

Notiophilus substriatus, *Waterh.*

Acheuium depressum

Bledius tricornis

Hister 4-maculatus

Apion limonii

Cassida salicorniae, *Steph.*

„ *nobilis*, *Steph.*

„ *splendula*, *Steph.*

—E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.*

OBSERVATIONS.

Double Broods.—I had the eggs of *Psilura Monacha* hatched on the 20th of

March; larvæ made up into pupæ on the 24th of May; emerged from pupæ on the 22nd of June; got fertilized eggs from six females on the 24th. They deposited into chip-boxes; I took off the lids, covered over the boxes with gauze, and put them in the garden, there to stay until 1860, unless wanted by some friends. On examining them I find four of the boxes covered with dead larvæ instead of eggs, they having hatched. I think this is not a regular custom of theirs. I have also the second brood this year of both *Smerinthus Ocellatus* and *Populi* in the breeding-cage, but very diminutive and very poor colour, though the larvæ were equally fine when they went down.—W. TALBOT, *Mount Pleasant, Wakefield*; August 28.

Smerinthus Populi double-brooded.—I am able to corroborate the statement made by Mr. Mathews, in last week's 'Intelligencer,' that this species is double-brooded. I had a pair brought me on on the 4th of June last, the eggs from which hatched on the 15th of that month. The larvæ were fed up and "took to earth" at the end of July and beginning of August, and perfect insects, from which I have now eggs, appeared on the 15th of August and following days. The larvæ were fed in a room in which there is no fire, the food-plant being kept in water.—GEORGE TINDALL, *Grove Street, Huddersfield*; August 29.

[We feel obliged for this and several other similar communications, but they establish nothing. A friend told us in the train the other day that he gathered raspberries in his garden last January. Are we to conclude thence that raspberries produce two crops of fruit every year, one in January and one in July? No one doubts that eggs of *Smerinthus* laid in summer frequently produce moths the same year; but no one believes that every egg laid before a certain date does so. In these days we hear of precocious children, why not precocious caterpillars?]

EXCHANGE.

Noctua Neglecta.—I have lately taken a fine series of this insect, and shall be glad to exchange a set of that or *L. Obsoleta* for good specimens of either of the following:—207, 221, 228, 229, 241, 246 to 250, 263, 270, 276, 277, 279, 299, 315, 320, 321, 325, 327, 345, 365, 377 to 379, 383, 385 to 389, 391, 395, 404 to 407, 422, 442, 446 to 450, 455 to 460, 475, 477, 492, 493.—W. H. ALLCHIN, 7, *Pembridge Villas, Bayswater*; August 30.

Coleophora Argentula.—The larva of this species is very abundant in the old Chelsea Water-Works, as also is that of *Gelechia Atriplicella*. I shall be happy to send either to those who may want them, on receipt of a prepaid box and return postage. The former affords a good instance of the rapid increase of a species under favourable circumstances. Last year I worked for several hours in the same spot for the same species, and only succeeded in obtaining about a dozen cases.—H. S. GORHAM, 10, *Alfred Street, Montpelier Square, Brompton, S.W.*

Exchange.—I have a locust, which I should like to exchange for *A. Atropos*.—F. SHEPHERD, *Cedars House, Tonbridge*.

Exchange.—I have *Eupheria Fulvago*, in good condition, to exchange for any of the undermentioned:—

Thecla Betulæ,

„ *Pruni*,

Polyommatus Arion,

Gastropacha Ilıcifolia,

Clisiocampa Castrensis,

or any of the *Drepana*.—GEORGE LUMB, *Kirkgate, Wakefield*; August 29.

Exchange.—I have a few good duplicates of *Papilio Machaon*, which I should be very glad to exchange, if possible, for

Colias Hyale,

**Thecla Pruni*,

* „ *W-album*,

**Polyommatus Arion*,

Acherontia Atropos.

I have also good females of *Colias Edusa*, which I should be glad to exchange for

**Melitæa Cinxia*,
**Steropes Paniscus*,
**Nemeobius Lucina*;

and also a number of

Colias Edusa,
Arge Galathea,
Polyommatus Corydon (♂ and ♀),
Pamphila Linea,
Procris Statice,

which I should be glad to exchange for

Aporia Cratægi,
Leucophasia Sinapis,
Erebia Cassiope,
Cænonympha Davus,
Grapta C-album,
Melitæa Athalia,
Thecla Betulæ,

**Polyommatus Artaxerxes*,

* „ *Actæon*,

and Nos. 68, 86, 88—98, 100—103, 106—113, 115—128, 130—134, 136—138, 140, 142—144, 146, 148—164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 177, 178, 181—183, 187, 188, 190—203, or any local *Noctuæ* or *Geometræ*, especially northern species. I am particularly anxious to obtain those eight which are marked with an asterisk, as of the other butterflies I have specimens, but not a complete set of four or six; and I must beg that applicants will write before sending boxes, as otherwise I cannot promise them all. The address for my exchange list will be—F. H. FAWKES, *Post Office, Tunbridge Wells*.

A CALENDAR OF LEPIDOPTERA.

SEPTEMBER.

Larvæ.—9, 11, 13, 36, 37, 41, 50, 61, 62, 83, 84, 90, 91, 104, 111, 112, 124, 125, 134, 170, 171, 177, 191, 193—195, 204—206, 211, 212, 218, 219, 221, 225—227, 229, 387, 415, 427—430, 432—434, 446, 447, 449, 451, 457, 466, 476.

Imagos.—3, 35, 76, 77, 129, 176, 182,* 270, 307, 310, 334, 367—372, 379—385, 406, 410, 412, 413, 424.

* My *T. Cratægi* all came out in August.—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough*.

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 155.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1859

[PRICE 1d.

NOVELTIES.

It is particularly at this season of the year that our readers should look out for novelties. We are aware that *Convolvuli*, *Lathonia* and *Antiopa* are now being sought more diligently than usual; but we wish to impress upon our readers that insects will be met with that are *not expected*, just as *Catephia Alchymista* flashed upon Dr. Wallace's sight in the autumn of last year. The concurrence of three such excessively hot summers in direct succession must be expected to produce a considerable development of more southern forms, and we have lately heard that a South of Europe butterfly, *Polymmatius Bætica*, has reappeared in the island of Guernsey, after an absence of twenty years. Had it occurred in Cornwall what a sensation would have been created!

Novelties are frequently neglected when they occur, because they fall into the hands of juveniles and incipients, who do not know their value till they discover—after having been cajoled out of a specimen or two by some older and more knowing hands—

that the queer-looking *Noctua*, which they were unable to make out, is new to the country!

Leucania putrescens has been turned up, but still we have no tidings of *L. L-album*. It would not be difficult to compile a list of the species likely to occur here; but yet it has so frequently happened that the species which turn up are not met with on the opposite shores of the Channel that we fear such a list would not be of the service, in enabling a tyro to name a novelty, which, at the first glance, one might have expected. Many of the new species of late years have been insects like *Pterophorus Loewii*, which we should never have anticipated would occur here.

The precise geographical range of species is a subject requiring such a series of observations in so many localities, that, excepting in the most conspicuous families of insects, we cannot expect that it will make very much progress in the present century. Were entomologists as numerous in France and in Germany as they are here we should not despair of something serviceable being accomplished even in the course of the next twenty

years; but the numbers of the votaries of our favourite Science abroad bear no proportion to their numbers here, and hence an adequate number of local lists cannot be readily obtained.

Perhaps in a few years our prospects in this direction may be more flourishing!

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained
WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

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At Birmingham, of Robert Burns, 63, Edmond Street.

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At Worcester, of G. Morgan, Bookseller and News Agent, Little Angel St.

At York, of Robert Snutter, 23, Stonegate.

 Country Newsvenders who have this paper on sale are requested to send us their names and addresses to be added to the above list.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

Mr. STAINTON will be at ABERDEEN during the Meeting of the British Association.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Having returned to England, my address is now, as before,—C. GLOYNE, 5, Terrace, Kensington, London, W.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. H., REGENSBURG.—VIII. duly received with thanks. You appear to have overlooked that I am from home; see 'Intelligencer,' No. 152, p. 170, "To Foreign Correspondents." Very sorry to hear of your illness.

F. R., MORPETH.—Your larva is probably *Acronycta Menyanthidis*.

R. B.—The larva in the Fungus is Dipterous; the other is *Porthesia auriflua*, very young.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—Yesterday our gardener caught a fine specimen of this insect in a vineyard, outside which there is a large bed of Petunias; and this morning I found another in the same place.—EDMUND GARRETT, Aldburgh, Suffolk; August 30.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—This insect appears to be rather plentiful here this season. During the past week I have captured two specimens, in excellent con-

dition, hovering over Petunias, about dusk, and have seen two more, but was unable to take them. I have also had several brought to me.—J. O. FISON, *Stoke Hill, Ipswich; Sept. 3.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have to record the capture of a specimen, now in the collection of Mr. M. Young, who had it brought to him by a boy, who found it sitting on a window-sill near Paisley, on the 30th of August.—A. SOMERVILLE, 328, *Renfrew Street, Glasgow; Sept. 5.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A fine male specimen of this insect was found by my little boy, at rest near a bed of Petunias in our garden yesterday.—J. NORTH, *Newsome, near Huddersfield; Sept. 5.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have just taken a splendid male specimen of this insect hovering over Petunias in the garden. Several more have been seen.—REV. H. HARPUR CREWE, *Breadsall Rectory, Derby; Sept. 6.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have just had a specimen of this insect brought to me, which was taken here to-day.—J. E. ROBSON, *Hartlepool; Sept. 8.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have within the last three weeks obtained four specimens of this insect; one of them, a male, is as perfect as any one could wish it to be, but the other three are all more or less damaged. Three were found in some brick-fields, the other on the knocker of a door.—R. ENON, *The Fox Inn, Back Road, Kingsland; Sept. 8.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., a little boy brought to my brother, Mr. Harold Smith, a very fine specimen of this insect, which he had taken on some damp linen that had remained out all night.—S. W. SMITH, jun., *Beaumont Villa, Northampton; Sept. 9.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—Since my last communication two more specimens of this insect have been captured in the same garden and on the same plant, both in better condition than the first. One was taken on the 2nd and the other on

the 5th of this month.—JOHN C. GALTON, *Den House, Teignmouth; Sept. 9.*

Sphinx Convolvuli, &c.—I captured last month about twenty specimens of *Acidalia Ornata*. I found, in Hampshire, a green larva, inside a bit of furze; it had just put out its head and legs to feed: it has since fastened its case to the top of my breeding-cage. About fifty or sixty pupæ of *Acherontia Atropos* have been found about Cheltenham, as also have three or four of *Sphinx Convolvuli*, in the perfect state, found near lamp-posts.—R. E. TRYE, *Leckhampton Court; Sept. 9.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have, within the last few days, found two pupæ of this insect, and heard of three others being found in the neighbourhood. Perhaps some of your correspondents could give me information as to the best mode of treating pupæ of *S. Convolvuli*? whether the earth in which they are kept should be rather moist or covered with cool moss, whether they should be buried an inch beneath the surface or lying on the top, &c.—JOHN FRYER, jun., *Manor House, Chatteris; Sept. 10.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I had the pleasure of capturing two specimens of this insect, on the 10th inst., in the Museum Gardens.—F. J. WADE, 4, *Coney Street, York; Sept. 10.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I have just received from a friend a specimen of this insect, which was caught, and consequently rather damaged, by a cat, at Lee, in Kent. Pussy exhibited considerable instinct in half-killing it, and then dropping it at the feet of one of the domestics. I think this is the second time a cat has turned entomologist.—W. C. TURNER, 33, *Bermondsey Square, S.E.; Sept. 10.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—On Saturday I had the pleasure of capturing a good specimen of this insect, on the side of a window, I suppose attracted by the light.—C. A. BIRD, *Hammersmith; Sept. 10.*

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I took a large

female specimen hovering over the flowers of a *Petunia*, last evening. *Colias Edusa* is much more common here this autumn than the white butterflies.—G. F. MATHEWS, *Raleigh House, Barnstaple*; Sept. 12.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A very fine female specimen was taken by one of my neighbours, on Friday evening, within two feet of where I was standing, and is now on my setting-board; another was noticed on Saturday evening, about ten o'clock, but not captured. Both were hovering over Marvel of Peru.—R. W. WRIGHT, 4, *Gloucester Terrace, Victoria Park Road, Hackney, N.E.*; Sept. 12.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—A pair of this insect have been taken here; one was captured by me.—SAMUEL TAGG, *Park Street, Coughton*; Sept. 12.

Gelechia Palustrella, &c.—I have taken ten specimens of *G. Palustrella*, in very fine condition. I have successfully transported the larvæ of *Nothris Verbasella* to Aldeby, as the Mullein fully shows.—W. WINTER, *Aldeby, Beccles*; Sept. 12.

Captures at Deal.—Both *Colias Edusa* and *Cynthia Cardui* are as abundant this year as last; this breaks up the theory that their appearance is septenary. I have taken four more of the larvæ of *Deilephila Galii* since my last communication, making ten in all. Ten specimens of *Sphinx Convolvuli* have likewise fallen to my share. Many of the *Pyrælidæ* are very abundant; *S. ferrugalis* and *S. hybridalis* swarm. All your correspondents are very quiet as to their success at sugar: the moths come here to it in swarms, such species as *L. pallens* and *impura*, *A. Valligera*, *A. Segetum*, *X. Xanthographa* and *N. C-uigrum*, but nothing very good. *Loeusta migratoria* is common this year; I have seen about twenty.—H. J. HARDING, I, *York Street, Church Street, Shoreditch*.

Lepidoptera near Dublin in August.—

**Colias Edusa*. Abundant.

* „ *Hyale*. Several specimens.

Sphinx Convolvuli. This fine insect, hitherto doubtfully recorded as Irish, but of which no native specimen was extant, has made its appearance in considerable numbers. Five specimens have come into my hands. Gardens near to the sea appear to be its favourite resort, but no partiality for any flower observed, cabbages and carnations seeming to be equally attractive. Its habits appear sluggish; one specimen placed unhurt in a box lined with cotton-wool thrust its nose into a corner, and remained without motion for forty-eight hours, until aroused by the preparations for its execution.

Agrotis Cursoria. Asleep in ragwort flowers on the sea-shore, but scarce; has not previously occurred in Ireland.

Spælotis Præcox. By "raking" on the Malahide sand-hills, but not abundant.

Luperina Cæspitis. Do.

**Harpalyce Ocellaria*. In swarms on the sand-hills.

* „ *Galiaria*. Do.

Camptogramma Fluviata. Two males beaten from a bank of mixed herbage on shore at Malahide; new to the Irish list.

**Scopula Ferrugalis*. Abundant on the cliffs.

**Crambus Geniculcus*. Do.

I have duplicates of those species marked with a *; also of

Grapta C-album,

Liparis Dispar,

Agrotis Valligera,

„ *Tritici*,

Leucania Conigera,

Apanea Connexa,

Pyrælis Farinalis,

and trust that any of my correspondents to whom they would be useful will write.—EDWIN BIRCHALL, *Dublin*; Sept. 9.

Micro-Lepidoptera at Taunton.—I herewith send a list of Micros I have taken since my residence in Taunton, not that there are many rare ones amongst them, although several I had not met with before, viz. *Coleophora apicella*, *Gelechia scriptella* and *Elachista subocella*. The

object of my sending you the entire list of captures in this division of Lepidoptera is to stimulate some younger brethren of the net and pin residing in and about the neighbourhood. I want to give them a taste this way. I shall gradually stir up amongst the Collegians, &c., here a liking for our favourite pursuit. I find that a tolerable collection (I mean a working collection), such as my own, and kept in pretty good order, had the effect of making more collectors than all the book-reading; but place the tour within reach, and a list of those species taken in the locality, and this will set them fairly afloat. The following is my list of captures from May to the present time, September 9th:—

Swammerdamia griseo-capitella

„ lutarea?

„ cæsiella

„ Pyrella

„ apicella

Adela rufimitrella

Scythropia Cratægella

Tinea ruricolella

Cerostoma xylostella

Gelechia scriptella

„ maculiferella

„ tenebrosella

„ domestica

„ terrella

„ vulgella

Coleophora tripunctella

„ imitella

„ fuscescens

Prays Curtisellus

Nemophora Schwartziella

Cerostoma radiatella

Argyresthia nitidella

„ Gædartella

„ Spiniella

Bedellia somnulentella

Chrysoclista flavicaput

Ornix guttea

„ avellanella

Coleophora cæspitiella

„ solitariella

„ Viminitella

Coleophora apicella

Lithocolletis Schreberella

„ tristrigella

„ Viminetella

„ Pomifoliella

„ Faginella

Elachista Treitschkiella

„ Megerlella

„ rufocinerea

„ subocellea

Phyllocnestis Saligna

Asychnia modestella

Lyonetia Clerckella

Ægoconia quadripuncta.

—E. PARFITT, *Museum, Taunton; Sept. 9.*

COLEOPTERA.

Captures near Deal.—Mr. Rye and I made an excursion to Deal on Saturday, August 27. We found on the sand-hills in the direction of Sandown Bay both entomologists and insects. The former seemed to have been attracted there chiefly by *Deilephila Galii*, in the pursuit of which they had been unsuccessful. Of the latter there were

Dyschirius salinus. Several.

„ *globosus.* Do.

I think we were not at the right time for *D. salinus*, as, to judge by Mr. Squire's Deal captures, it must sometimes be abundant.

Pogonus chalcus. Abundant.

„ *luridipennis.* One.

Calathus flavipes. One.

Brosicus cephalotes. Several.

Anisodactylus pæciloides. Of these Mr. Rye took a great many; I was rather unsuccessful. This species is indeed well named. A good Coleopterist has been at Deal, and often collected on the sand-hills, but never took this species, doubtless rejecting them all as *Pæcilus cupreus*.

Bembidium ustulatum. Abundant.

All these species under stones, in damp places, &c.:—

Silpha tristis. Several.

Gronops lunatus. Two or three at the roots of the low rushes.

One specimen of a good *Anthicus*, and a good many *Brachelytra*, *Steni*, &c. We were too early for the autumn *Harpali* and *Amaræ*. Even of the *Geodephaga* we took a good many which were just out of pupa.—C. GLOYNE, *East Cliff House, Herne Bay*; Sept. 6.

Trichius fasciatus.—On the 26th ult. I found a fine specimen of this local beetle in my garden, in this town. Whether it was bred in the garden, or what attracted it there, I do not know, as I found it in a basin of water on the ground, near to a sumach tree, and some Umbelliferous flowers were in blossom near. Almost every day since I have looked for more, but have not found any. Probably it is too late, as Stephens gives June and July for its appearance. I believe the species localizes at Swansea, between twenty and thirty miles distant, so that it is probably to be found in other parts of Glamorganshire.—T. PARRY, *Bank, Merthyr*; Sept. 9.

OBSERVATIONS.

Colias Edusa and *Sunshine*.—When out collecting, the other day, in a meadow where the bur-marigold was plentiful, I could not help noticing the wonderful effect that the sunshine had on *C. Edusa*. Whenever the sun was clouded all were gone; when it again shone out all was life and animation. Does the nectar rise only when the sun shines on the flowers? I am half inclined to think there is something in this, for a great number of the honey-collecting insects seemed at the same time to cease from their labours when the sun popped in. Assuming this to be the case, on what do they subsist during the cloudy and rainy weather, which sometimes lasts a week or more? Surely they are not total abstainers during

this period? if so I cannot wonder at their being so extremely active on the first appearance of the sun.—JOHN SANDERS, *Eastover, Bridgwater*; Sept. 2.

Erebia Cassiope.—On the 30th of June, while ascending Helvellyn, I observed this species flying in plenty about three parts up the mountain, over some boggy patches of ground. To these spots it appeared confined, for higher or lower not a single specimen was to be seen. I was pressed for time, and was only able to secure a set for my own cabinet. They were getting rather worn.—REV. H. HARPUR CREWE, *Breadsall Rectory, Derby*; Sept. 6.

The Ornix of the Beech.—I noticed that you mentioned incidentally, in the last number of the 'Intelligencer,' that this had not been bred. I have one specimen which I bred; but I have not succeeded in rearing it again. The cones when found are almost always empty.—P. H. VAUGHAN, *Redland, near Bristol*; Sept. 6.

Tischeria Angusticollis.—The larva of this insect has again occurred abundantly in one lane near Sheffield, but only for a space of about 100 yards, though rose-bushes are equally plentiful on both sides of this restricted locality.—H. T. STAINTON; Sept. 8.

An Asychna? Larva in the Leaves of a Plant called the Old Man's Beard.—When in Guernsey, last October, I called upon a gentleman, at St. Samson's, named Mahy, over whose door-way this plant grew luxuriantly. Almost every leaf had been mined by a larva, whose depredations much resembled those of an *Asychna*. As, however, the whole of them had quitted their leafy canopies, and I was therefore unable to obtain a supply, perhaps some entomologist residing there would be kind enough to gather a tinful and send them to Mr. Stainton. They are sure to be feeding now, and if a new species it might lead to its detection here. The mine much

resembled that of *A. terminella*.—JOHN SCOTT, *Southfield Villas, Middlesbro'-on-Tees*; Sept. 5.

HYMENOPTERA.

Crabro Lindensis.—My puzzle (*ante* p. 70) is solved: I place the solution of it at your disposal. I have had a piece of willow-wood sent to me this morning from York that throws light on the borers of the spruce-fir I noticed in Surrey last winter. This wood is pierced in all directions, and each bore, as in the former instance, contains one or more flies; these are *Sarcophaga carnaria*, *Musca meridiana*, *M. vomitoria* and some of the Syrphidæ. Closely attached to these flies is a pupa-case: from this pupa-case I have seen emerge one of the *Eumenidæ*, or Carpenter-wasps, as they are usually called. The history is now soon read; the Carpenter-wasp is the borer of these holes. As soon as the bore is formed by means of her powerful mandibles—for the male wasp takes no part in her proceedings—she goes in quest of some unfortunate flesh-fly, which she seizes and carries off bodily to the bore. She pushes it head foremost into the hole, lays an egg in its abdomen, fastens up the entrance with the detritus of the rotten wood. Her work is done: the egg hatches and the young larva finds its nutriment at hand, on which it is to subsist in the larva state. In process of time it spins its pupal cerement, whence it emerges, gnawing its way through the cocoon-detritus that closed up the entrance of the bore. This is a practical solution of the puzzle: this time, at all events, the "spider" is not the culprit; he has enough deeds of cruelty to answer for, without being charged with this wholesale slaughter!—PETER INCHBALD, *Storthes Hall, Huddersfield*; Sept. 7.

[The insect sent is *Crabro Lindensis*, a scarce species, and hitherto only taken singly. Were any more specimens taken?]

EXCHANGE.

Lasiocampa Rubi and *Cossus Ligniperda*.—I have many larvæ of these species (of the former 200), and can get many more. If any one wants these larvæ I shall be happy to send them on receipt of a box and return postage, without any return whatever. The better way, to save useless postage, is to apply by letter, and I will wait a week before answering any, so that all may have a fair chance.—W. WINTER, *Aldeby, Beccles*; Sept. 12.

Exchange.—I shall be happy to exchange *Xanthia Gilvago* for local species. Write first.—T. FYLES, *Scotter, Kirton-in-Lindsey*; Sept. 10.

Exchange.—I have this week received three boxes, all containing the same species of small pearl-bordered Fritillary, in exchange for *Colias Edusa*. It would be better if applicants would write a line before sending a box, to say what species they have to offer in exchange. The kinds I want are *T. Rubi*, *T. C-album*, *S. Davus*, *E. Cassiope* or *E. Blandina*.—JOHN FRYER, jun., *Manor House, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire*; Sept. 10.

Exchange.—I have duplicates of the following insects for exchange:—2, 12, 13, 15, 33, 34, 36, 37, 45, 46, 61, 64, 65, 71, 137, 141, 173, 484 and 495, which I should be glad to exchange for the following:—4, 11, 20, 23, 53, 59, 62, 63, 69, 75, 90, 108, 115, 124, 166, 175, 181, 186, 189, 492 and 493. Applicants must please write first, to prevent disappointment, as my number of some of the insects is but small.—R. E. BRAMELD, *St. John's Street, Mansfield*; Sept. 12.

Exchange.—I have duplicates of the following, numbered as in the 'Manual':—19, 21, 67, 154, 190, 193, 231, 233, 256, 269, 290, 293, 294, 347, 351, 372, 373, 394, 410, 415, 430, 462, 488, 496, 518, 607, 613, 749, 769, 790, 834, 836, 1083, 1102, 1109. I should be glad

to exchange the foregoing for pairs of any of the following:—52, 53, 88, 89, 90, 109—112, 115, 116, 121, 122, 134, 140, 176, 207, 210, 212, 219, 221, 225, 227, 254, 278, 287, 313, 331, 358, 359, 362, 399, 404, 414, 421, 422, 444, 454, 455—458.—
JONATHAN ORDE, 5, *East Street, Darlington*; Sept. 12.

THE POST OFFICE.

To the Editor of the 'Intelligencer.'

Sir,—I think I can suggest a remedy for the grievance complained of by Mr. Dell, and felt by so many other entomologists, and I gladly mention it "pro bono publico." I was constantly having my newspapers stolen in the Post Office, especially, as may be supposed, when the news was most interesting. This set me on thinking how to remedy the evil, and I found the following plan eminently successful, so that I have never lost one since. "Crede experto." On every occasion of a paper being stolen I wrote to complain of the theft, and gave the officials all the trouble I possibly could, in forcing on them a correspondence to and from London, or head quarters, and so backwards and forwards. This broke their hearts in the end, and, as I have said, I found the plan eminently successful.

Do the same with your insect-boxes when damaged in the post; note every post-mark on them; write to the post-master of each of the places, and demand an explanation and compensation; and (as the letters go free without being prepaid) write also to complain to the Post-master-General, from whom the subordinates will also hear, and request him to have enquiries made. This will give them all no end of trouble, and, by repeating it "usque ad nauseam," in a short time (entomologists are now so numerous a class) it will be found that

this system will work throughout the country. "Numbers will prevail." You will have the Post-Office clerks as gentle as doves, in place of stamping on (as well as stamping) the boxes, out of pure spite.

REV. F. O. MORRIS.

*Nunburnholme Rectory,
Hayton, York; August 25.*

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THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

No. 156.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1859.

[PRICE 1d.]

LIST OF ENTOMOLOGISTS.

THE usual period of the year has now arrived when the preparation of the new volume of the 'Entomologist's Annual' engages our attention.

Of that publication the List of British Entomologists now forms no inconsiderable portion; but the difficulty of keeping that correct is very considerable. When we first undertook this list we took the trouble of sending a slip, with the name as proposed to be entered, to each individual, thereby ensuring that each should correct his own address; but we fear that if we did so annually to all those already enumerated in our List we should get voted "a regular bore," and our circulars would cease to come back to us.

We hear some reader suggest that we should so word our circular that it should only require to be returned *if* incorrect; that we should say, "Unless we hear from you to the contrary, we shall assume that the address as printed is still perfectly correct." But should we then get rid of all the defunct entomologists? Entomologists

die in two ways; in the first place, they often cease to be entomologists from turning their attention exclusively to other matters; though living in the flesh—active at the Senate, the Bar, the Pulpit or the Counting House—they are entomologically dead; in the second place, some continue votaries of the Science till their life's end, but how are we to learn when that period arrives?

Occasionally we observe, to our regret, the death of some old correspondent recorded in the columns of the 'Times,' and at other times we hear from some mutual friend of the loss which our Science has sustained: these sad events are then chronicled in our columns under the head of "Obituary." But of the 967 entomologists whose names are recorded in our last year's List, some may have left this sublunary scene without any notice of the event reaching us, and these names we might continue to chronicle for years.

Our readers are therefore particularly requested—

1. To inform us if they wish their names added to the forthcoming list of Entomologists.

2. To inform us if they have changed their addresses since last year's List was published.

3. To inform us if any of the 967 names in last year's 'Annual' represent *dead men*, whose names have not appeared in our obituary notices.

THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER may be obtained

WHOLESALE of E. Newman, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, and of W. Kent & Co., 51 & 52, Paternoster Row.

All communications to be addressed to MR. H. T. STAINTON, Mountsfield, Lewisham, near London, S.E. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.—Having occasion to leave home for a short time, I must request my correspondents to withhold writing till they hear of my return.—THOMAS LINNELL, *Redstone Wood, near Reigate; Sept. 13.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. E. R.—*Helice* is a variety which never occurs in the male, only in the female.

CAPTURES.

LEPIDOPTERA.

Sphinx Convolvuli.—I had a very fine specimen of this insect brought to me, on the 7th inst., by a lady friend of mine, residing in Cold Harbour Lane, Camber-

well. Its capture was rather singular, for upon entering her back-parlour, the evening before I became possessed of it, she noticed the cat playing with what she naturally supposed to be a mouse, but upon closer inspection it proved to be no other than *S. Convolvuli*; and, although it had met with such a strange captor, yet I am happy to say it has not suffered the least detriment. I have also just received a fine specimen of the locust tribe, measuring 3 inches in length and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in expansion of the wings; it was taken in Camberwell Grove. — G. KEEN, 1, Manor Place, Walworth Road; Sept. 10.

Captures near Dumfries.—Thinking it may be interesting to the readers of the 'Intelligencer,' I forward an account of captures of Lepidoptera in this neighbourhood. Without reckoning Tortricæ and Tineina, my captures amount to about 150 species, and I have by me at the present time about 1400 specimens, captured during this and the last summer. I do not think it worth while to name the common species captured, but I have ventured to forward a list of about seventy of such species as I have found most local or scarce.

Cobias Edusa
Argynnis Aglaia
Polyommatus Alsus
 ... *Artaxerxes*
Erebia Blandina
Cænonympha Davus
Thecla Rubi
 ... *Quercus*
 ... *W-album*
Hipparchia Semele
Cynthia Cardui
Smerinthus Ocellatus
 ... *Populi*
Sphinx Convolvuli
Charocampa Elpenor
Sesia Fuciformis
Saturnia Pavonia-minor
Lasiocampa Quercus
Odonestis Potatoria
Dasychira Fascelina

Euthemonia Russula
 Notodonta Dromedarius
 ... Ziczac
 Thyatira Batis
 Dianthæcia Conspersa
 Plusia Festuæ
 ... Gamma
 ... Chrysitis
 ... Iota
 ... Bractea
 Gonoptera Libatrix
 Acronycta Leporina
 Phragmatobia Fuliginosa
 Nemeophila Plantaginis
 Miselia Oxyacanthæ
 Venilia Maculata
 Carsia Imbutata
 Melanippe Hastata
 Gnophria Rubricollis
 Cleora Lichenaria
 Anarta Myrtilli
 Mixodia Schulziana
 Polia Occulta
 Bankia Bankiana
 Ourapteryx Sambucaria
 Hipparchus Papilionarius
 Pseudopterpna Cytisaria
 Chesias Spartiata
 Aphomia Colonella
 Galleria Melonella
 Ellopiæ Fasciaria
 Eupithecia Nanata
 Eurymene Dolabraria
 Selenia Illunaria
 Crambus Pinetellus
 Cerura Furcula
 ... Vinula
 Aventia Flexula
 Odontopera Bidentata
 Venusia Cambria
 Strenia Clathrata
 Lozogramma Petraria
 Phibalapteryx Vitalbata
 Chloëophora Prasinana
 Ligdia Adustrata
 Hepialus Velleda
 ... Lupulinus.

—W. LENNON, 19, *Shakspeare Street*,
Dumfries.

COLEOPTERA.

Trechus discus near *Manchester*.—I have had the pleasure of capturing the above species on the banks of the Irwell, for the first time, by digging it out of the crevices in the mud-banks. I have also taken the following species:—

Clivina collaris
Patrobus excavatus
Trechus minutus
Bembidium lunatum
 ... *bipunctatum*.

I hope to have a few of *T. discus* and *B. lunatum* to spare.—JOSEPH CHAPPELL, 11, *Gordon's Buildings, Pole Field, Pendleton, near Manchester*; *Sept. 13*.

Herne Bay.—After a week's hard work in this district of London Clay, I have the following species to record:—

Polystichus fasciolatus (2)
Amara patricia
Pterostichus picimanus
Carabus monilis
Calathus fuscus
Xantholinus tricolor (6)
Staphylinus stercorarius
Stenus guttula
 ... *ossium*
 ... *oculatus*
Apion cruentatum
Gymnetron antirrhini?
Cassida vibex.

I also found a fine *Mutilla Europæa* and saw one or two of *Gryllus migratorius*. *Colias Edusa* was still abundant, myself and brother having taken about fifty, without any trouble. Of my captures at Deal I will write next week.—E. C. RYE, 284, *King's Road, Chelsea*; *Sept. 12*.

OBSERVATIONS.

Trichius fasciatus.—Last week (p. 198) Mr. T. Parry informed us that he had captured *Trichius fasciatus* at Merthyr; may I suggest that it is not that species, but *T. zonatus*, Germ., which is very like

fasciatus, but differs, *inter alia*, in being about one-third less, and in the black spot at the base of the elytra being confined to the shoulders and not extending to the suture. Stephens has evidently united the two as one species, but *fasciatus* occurs only in Scotland and *zonatus* in Wales, hitherto, I believe, only near Swansea; and it is to be wished that some one would find out if specimens are still to be captured there, for I know of none having been taken for many years.—J. W. DOUGLAS, *Lee*; Sept. 19.

A Query.—While entomologizing on the Duke of St. Alban's estate, in this neighbourhood, a week or two ago, I was surprised to see thousands of black caterpillars, an inch and a half in length, stretched along the tops of the bents of grass in the park, dead and quite stiff. What were they, and what killed them?—E. TEARLE, *Gainsborough*.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange.—I have fine specimens of—

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| C. Edusa, | M. Artemis, |
| A. Galathea, | P. Ægon, |
| H. Semele, | Agestis, |
| A. Paphia, | A. Luetuosa, |
| A. Aglaia, | A. Ulmata, |

which I shall be glad to exchange. Among my principal wants are Nos. 1, 4, 5, 19, 20, 23, 24, 31, 41 to 44, 52, 53, 59, 62 to 64, 69, 70, 77, 79, 86, 88 to 98, 100 to 102, 163, 164, 167, 168.—T. E. RICHARDSON, 2, *Victoria Villas, Weston-super-Mare*; Sept. 13.

Exchange.—I shall be glad to receive offers of local species in exchange for the following;—

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. Cratægi | C. Alsines |
| C. Cardui | A. Valligera |
| V. Polychloros | Tritici |
| G. C-album | X. Gilvago |
| P. Monacha | E. Ochroleuca |

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| N. Plantiginis | P. Flavocincta |
| T. Cratægi | A. Myrtilli |
| C. Morpheus. | |

Write first.—EDWIN TEARLE, *Gainsborough*.

Exchange.—I have three specimens of *Aporia Cratægi*, which I wish to exchange, if possible, for *Papilio Machaon*. I have also *Colias Edusa* (6), *Thanaos Tages* and *Callimorpha Jacobææ*, which I should like to exchange for *Leucophasia Sinapis*, *Vanessa Polychloros*, *Nemeobius Lucina*, *Erebica Blandina*, any *Thecla* but *Quercus*, *Pamphila Actæon* or *Charocampa Elpenor*. As my duplicates are few in number, applicants had better write first.—J. B. FOWLER, *Llandaff Place, Llandaff, Cardiff*.

Duplicate Coleoptera for Sale.—I have many hundred species of British Coleoptera, all well carded, in duplicate, which I should be happy to sell. I do not want to make a living out of them; but I am a poor man, and adopt this plan to make for myself a larger field to collect in.—J. STOKES, 1, *Thancet Street, Burton Crescent, London*.

Not for Exchange.—At the last meeting of the Entomological Society I had the pleasure of exhibiting some specimens of *Clostera Anachoreta*, which were bred from larvæ taken by myself; but, as the larva is so conspicuous, the locality (so far as I know) very restricted, and the insect as yet so rare, I decline to give any nearer locality than the "Home Counties," as such a proceeding would inevitably cause the spot to be overrun with dealers and others, whose aim is to extort by means of rarities; information on that point must therefore not be expected. And here I may as well mention that when I do have the insect to spare, it will not be for exchange, and any application for it will prove unavailing, as it is my intention to give the insect to whom I please.—H. G. KNAGGS, M.D.

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